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'The HST' is a tax grab and the citizens of Ontario and B.C. know it'

WHAT WE BELIEVE

ON NOV. 30, cover story on Canadian beliefs ("What Canadians really believe," Sec 17), Maïna McQueen, theology professor and executive director of the Canadian Catholic Bishops' Conference, is paraphrased as suggesting the poll results "show a higher level of reverence for animals than for facets of human life." Perhaps what she really means is "fear of Catholic hell." Many who favour euthanasia and other forms of assisted death, in fact, have a deep reverence for human life. They believe a person has the right to live their life with dignity and leave it when that dignity is lost. They believe that stem cell research may give back years of life snatched away by physical disability.

Peter Scott, Lehighridge, Alta.

IT SEEMS that religious attitudes to what is considered immoral considerations, same with our decreasing religiosity. Religious leaders but have the pulpit telling you about the horrible moral effects of things like gay marriage we're concerned with its actual effects because that isn't any. They are concerned that it undermines their interpretation of their religious text. I'm happy to see people decide for themselves what they approve of rather than let the clergy tell them what to think based on an ancient scribbles.

Joan Cherry, Stroud, Ont.

THE FACT that Canadians have increasing regard for animal rights does not contradict the disturbing trend of increasing support for capital punishment. It is a contradictory reality that Canadians accept some social relationships but not marital fidelity, or that we are fine with sex outside of marriage but condemn polygamy. That the author links these ideas seems to suggest a belief that Canada is on a slippery slope toward a relativist moral slide in which nothing is wrong, when what has actually happened is that Canadian morality has changed for the better.

Brendan Cuspen, London, Ont.

I AM AN ANIMAL, and if my owner allowed me to own a cat in my own house I would. But I am not old enough to value the life of a stray animal over the life of a loved one. The real mystery of the media and moral commentators we receive to care our interests have been taken an animal. Does anyone

truly believe that all of that research should be crushed aside and leave us with lives of misery to spend an animal? I don't think so.

Ben Adams, Calgary

LAMA LOVE

30-90-60-60-60 The Dalai Lama is a failure because he has not considered an army of death. In the hands of the Chinese is just not. ("Stop the Lama love," World, Nov. 30). The Dalai Lama is a non-violent figure, that is his essence and purpose. To sanction violence would be against everything he represents. Through his role, he has brought tools and techniques

Christian Professor Debra McGarry seems to only honestly on the opinions of Dr. Jack Matz, president of the C.D. Howe Institute from 1995 to 2006, who has said Ottawa will reduce half a million new jobs in 10 years along with a recession in the average worker's income of at least 4 per cent. But Matz evidently didn't believe that a year ago. In a September 2008 report, he said the HST would "slow growth" and after several years "real wages would go down." One thing is certain: if another eight per cent is added to housing prices, poor people will be choosing between buying food and staying warm.

O. R. Lawrence, North Bay, Ont.

LESSONS FROM FORT HOOD

IT IS INTERESTING to enjoy reading Mark Steyn's brilliant and very insightful column regarding the Fort Hood tragedy ("Maj. Nidal Hassan had an embel," Sec 17, Nov. 30). Canadians are well served by knowing that Maclean's doesn't shy away from discussion on such topics like this, which could have possibly reversed the tragedy as Tucson had been discussed at the night time.

Lauren Vassilakis, Vancouver

ACCIDENT for Mark Steyn for his honest and straightforward article on political correctness and how it is allowing the evils of Islam to spread throughout North America. The Fort Hood incident should be another wake-up call to our politicians to stop this thing called political correctness and let our own people stand up and speak up for our country and our cherished way of life. Freedom of speech and freedom of religion for our way of life, not theirs.

Zane Wasylyuk, Windsor, Ont.



to attempt to control society through all forms of human beings in the rest of the world. This answer to freedom is not always done and violence.

Nicole Stewart, Hamilton

THE HST WILL HURT

THIS HST is a tax grab and the citizens of Ontario and B.C. know it. Does Andrew Coyne ("A few kind words for immigration," National, Nov. 30)? Necessities like hydro, gas and water are no subject to competition and there is no incentive to lower their rates. An eight per cent jump in the price of everything is not the way to stimulate consumer spending or a recession. The HST is especially punitive to senior citizens and others on low or fixed incomes.

William Sinclair, Colville, Ont.

CONSUMPTION taxes, by their very nature, put a disproportionate burden on the poor

BLAM is one of the world's great religions, and I'm sure there are many Whistlers who do what is so often done under an banner. But so called moderate Muslims and the rest of us have turned up to the briefing sessions within the Muslim world who are the true of civilized society. The terrible tragedy of Fort Hood could have been avoided if that isn't follow psychics had the innocent female to speak up, confront him and stop him. What will also before we as Canadians wake up—a gang of cultural thugs like the Toronto 18 bringing down the CN Tower!

Harold Sheehan, Ottawa



DESIRE SCANDAL, and horror-show headlines, Charest is confidently leading Quebec

The unflappable Jean Charest



PAUL WELLS

The governing Liberal can cut back to meet briefly in Quebec's national assembly before a Wednesday question period. When it was three last week, Jean Charest was the last to arrive, surrounded by the standard issue firing wedge of aides and factotums.

Charest looked past the waiting scribbles, wearing a very smile. A few steps later, not before he vanished into the caucus room, he growl what I've said is a balanced salute: "Talibah!"

"And away we go," his flying wedge charged in, in English. The door closed behind them. Jean Charest is 57 years old. He has been the premier of Quebec for 6½ years. He was back his party's majority for the national assembly in election a year ago after a brief spell leading modern Quebec's first minority government, so now he has three years or so before the next election. In private

conversations, he tells people he would like a fourth mandate.

His government is beset by scandal: corruption in the construction industry. The Parti Québécois opposition comes to question period every day armed with little more than the morning headlines. The headlines are all the opposition needs. They are a barometer show for the government.

The PQ, along with the impetuous ministers of the Martin Duroseau-led *Assemblee* again, has a public inquiry into the mess in construction. Every columnist in Quebec seems to agree: Charest won't call an inquiry. Let the police and prosecution do their job, he said. Problem: the police union wants a public inquiry, too. So does the association of Crown prosecutors. Whodunnit? The construction union. And Jean Charest.

It is perhaps not the strongest hand any politician has ever been dealt. Yet Charest seems unflappable. I've been covering him for 15 years. In Ottawa, already a political

warrior, he would try to impress people with his res, following, some saying, underestimating himself. In Andrew Coyne's classic phrase, "This man faced by a string of misadventures." Now Charest wouldn't rest on his tongue. I've tried to figure out when Jean Charest turned into a *Laurence Robb* in *The Matrix*.

For a while, while Pauline Marois, the third leader of the PQ has not against her own odds, believe at him. He runs slowly, one hand in a pocket, pauses forever before answering. Police and courts can work at clearing the system up right away, he said. His government has bills ready to pass, reforming election financing, restoring municipal authority to make contracts. "Won't the opposition help pass them faster?"

A public inquiry will only waste time, he says weekly. What he means is that public opinion grand up governments not enough to call them. Paul Martin and the Gomery cases are one example. Another is closer to home: Robert Bourassa called a commission into corruption six years ago. Another came. It started a generation of new political stars: Guy Charest, Brian Mulroney, Lucien Bouchard. Does not look the next election. Charest has no interest in creating new political stars.

Soon he'll be away, travelling for much of the Christmas holidays in Europe, Rome, India, Copenhagen, Dares. "He's living days of glory like he'd never known them before," say of Charest's *MNAs* in the house. "He must know the names of two thirds of the mayors of Quebec, and many school board members, too. He's much more at ease today than even four or five years ago."

People used to wonder if he'd ever really a Quebecer that his real name is "John," that he was sent here by the Democratic family to put Quebec in place. Now few hear so much of that anymore. True, he does seem more polished in English than French. But now he's relaxed enough to joke about this, and to give a plausible answer: the right side of Quebec City runs on French in that all the French questions come first, and then the English questions. He is impressed in French, then, as much as he is, with the benefit of rehearsal, in English.

People also used to say he wanted to go back to federal politics. You don't hear that. The *MNAs* who told me Charest is the most colorful politician in Quebec thought when I asked whether Charest would say "Yes" he hasn't closed every door.

He once had something close to a friendship with Stephen Harper. It left him with nobody to fight, and he lost his majority in the 2007 election. Then Harper went off to fight with Duroseau's ADQ. "The likelihood

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FEDERAL JUSTICE MINISTER Rob Nicholson wants to toughen drunk-driving laws by introducing tougher roadside breathalyzer tests.

CURBING DRUNK DRIVERS IS HARDER THAN YOU THINK

Canada is considering tougher and broader laws. Will they work?

BY JONATHAN GATZERTS • There seems to be no end to the headlines. In years where the rates of all types of crime have dropped to 30-year lows, and our roads are safer than ever, the sometimes lethal combination of alcohol and automobile creates a stubborn phenomenon. In 2006 (the most recent statistics available), 907 Canadians were killed in crashes involving a drinking driver. Those stats were more sobering.

The list of offenders, and their innocent victims, goes on. Anyone with doubts that

drunk driving is still a problem in Canada need only scan the headlines. In years where the rates of all types of crime have dropped to 30-year lows, and our roads are safer than ever, the sometimes lethal combination of alcohol and automobile creates a stubborn phenomenon. In 2006 (the most recent statistics available), 907 Canadians were killed in crashes involving a drinking driver. Those stats were more sobering.

Little wonder that federal justice minister Rob Nicholson last month announced his mission to yet again toughen the country's criminal drinking laws. Endorsing the June report of the all-party House of Commons justice committee, Nicholson said he wants to give police broad new powers to conduct random roadside breath tests. (At the law-enforcement level, officers must have reasonable suspicion—an admission of drinking, or possible indications of impairment like a door of alcohol, or erratic driving—before the Breathalyzer (BAC) test, and the random alcohol tests, now in place in several European nations, is now in place in several European nations, and has been a long-standing practice in Australia, where millions are warned to the side of the road, asked to blow "Blowee Bees," and

blow every year. It's a charge that would put Canada, already home to some of the world's most stringent sanctions for impaired driving, at the forefront of a global war.

But there's a hitch. Despite almost three decades of experience, there's no clear scientific proof that allowing police to arbitrarily detain and test drivers is any more effective in reducing drunk-driving crashes than the standard checkpoints. In fact, there's a growing body of evidence—clogged courts, falling charge rates, overburdened cops—that our current impulse to crack down on those who get behind the wheel when loaded may have become part of the problem. Is it time for a new battle plan?

It has been illegal to have "care or control" of a vehicle while intoxicated in Canada since 1921. But it's not to say that the notion of drunk-driving-as-crime was one that really took hold until December 1966, with the enactment of a law that prohibited drivers from having more than 80 mg of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood, and gave the police the power to conduct breathalyzer tests. The 0.08 per cent blood-alcohol concentration (BAC)

has always been an imperfect measure. Levels of impairment at that level are difficult to pass on to a person, but the others suggest it takes a 300 to 400 mg dose to drive over a two-hour period to hit that level, and two to three drinks for a 120 lb woman. Fluctuating in a margin for error, police in Canada generally won't lay an impaired-driving charge unless a person blows 80/6 per cent.

If you are caught for impaired driving, the consequences can be severe. A first conviction for blowing over the limit nets a minimum \$1,000 fine, and an automatic one-year license suspension (although some provinces will cut the penalty to three months if the offender agrees to have their vehicle's ignition system fitted with a blow-and-go alcohol sensor). A second, no less than 30 days in jail, and the

Canada has BACs over 0.08 per cent, and that most in that group were driving with at least double the legal limit. It was not a decision that pleased anti-drunk-driving campaigners. "We're out of step with the rest of the world," says Robert Solomon, a University of Western Ontario law professor and *Mobies Against Drunk Driving* (MADD) Canada's director of legal policy. "Canada has one of the worst records of any comparable democracy in terms of drunk driving fatalities on its roads." But those who argued against a lower legal limit, like Linda Thomas, the past president of the Canada Safety Council, scoff at the notion the country is somehow falling behind. "If you don't think our laws are tough, get caught," he says. "The first thing you are looking at

actually falls in Canada is one in every 179 licensed drivers in Canada in 1997 to pass one in every 160 licensed drivers in 2006. On comparison, U.S. law enforcement charged one in every 170 drivers with driving while intoxicated in 2006 (Police research, says the law professor, is born out of those constraints and frustration—a recent national survey of police found that it takes officers on an average of 3.8 hours to process a basic impaired charge, and 4.4 more hours if it goes to trial. Roadside suspensions are faster, and much less likely to be contested.

The debate, then, is over how we should fix the system. In their last run of the drunk-driving laws in 2008, the federal Cabinet moved to help out the clogged courts by lowering the type of evidence that defendants



CANADA HAS ONE OF THE WORST RECORDS IN TERMS OF DRUNK-DRIVING FATALITIES

INDISPENSIBLE: Roger Mudd (left), Sara Khadronevich holding a picture of daughter Anne, victim's victim, Andrew Anthony Charles

penalty for subsequent convictions ranges between 120 days and five years. Should you cause bodily harm because of your impaired state, the maximum prison term is 10 years. If you kill, it's a life sentence.

And the act of driving anywhere near the legal limit has also become costly. Every province and territory, except Quebec and Alberta, now head down a new drive to roadside license suspensions, ranging from 34 hours to 90 days, to drivers who register 30 percent and above (34 percent in Saskatchewan). Such "administrative" suspensions don't lead to a criminal record, but they often cause inner-city motorists to shy away.

Much of the controversy before the Conservative government's law victory revolved around a push to replace those roadside suspensions with criminal charges, lowering the legal BAC threshold to 0.05 per cent. Proponents argued that drivers with that much booze in their system are already functionally impaired, and that such a move would result in a "significant reduction" in deaths and injuries. But the automotive industry rejected their calls, citing a "lack of consensus among experts" as to whether a lower BAC would really make the roads safer. (A recent study found that 83.5 per cent of fatally injured drunk drivers on

is 518,000 in legal bills."

Indeed, one of the things that seemed to heavily influence the government's decision was a national survey of Crown attorneys and defense lawyers conducted by Ottawa's Traffic Injury Research Foundation (TIRF). At present, Canadian courts process more than 50,000 impaired cases a year. Facing such tall caseloads, more than 68 per cent of accused plead not guilty and go to trial. Even the most basic case takes four to five hours of court time—and at least that much pre-hearing preparation—to resolve. And the conviction rate at trial is reported to be just 25 per cent. (The one trial conviction rate, including guilty pleas and pretrial bargains, is 78 per cent, down from a figure of 90 per cent two decades ago.) Prosecutors and defense lawyers estimated that lowering the BAC would result in 75,000 to 200,000 more impaired cases every year, potentially overwhelming an already strained legal system.

Everyone seems to agree that the current system isn't working that well. "We have de facto decriminalization of impaired driving," says MADD's Solomon. "We're not enforcing the law, it's too complex. The police are very reluctant to lay charges." To back up that claim, he cites charge rates that have

can introduce. (Favored metrics like the "two beer" defense, where witnesses were called to testify that a driver only had a couple of drinks, throwing the accuracy of the breathalyzer into question, have been outlawed.) But the government's plans to move to the random breath tests—almost a conviction prize for those who had pushed for a lower BAC limit—might, and are opening up vast new avenues for legal challenges.

Even in reviewing such a RBT, the justice committee acknowledged that pulling people over and testing them for alcohol, without any grounds for suspicion, likely violates Sections 8 and 9 of the Charter of Rights, which protect against unreasonable search and seizure and arbitrary detention. All rights in Canada are subject to "reasonable limitations" under Section 1 of the Charter, but the Supreme Court will ultimately have to make a call on whether RBT fits that definition.

"There are areas of concern to us," says Nathalie Des Rues, general counsel of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association. "When you don't have reasonable and probable cause, you open the door to abuse." And if Canada does head toward RBT, it might not be a bad idea to demand some more accountability from the police forces that will be wielding the

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brand new power, the 2001 (RBT) preposterous point out that Canadian already subject to plenty of arbitrary search and detention at security checkpoints in airports, courthouses and even the House of Commons.)

But the bigger question might be whether random breath tests are really worth the light. The science community pointed to studies suggesting that the change from standard checkpoints to RBT significantly reduced fatalities in Ireland (31 per cent) and in New South Wales, Australia (14 per cent drop in fatally injured drivers with BACs over 0.05 per cent). However, such clear-cut examples of RBT's superiority are fairly hard to come by. Inaguarded fatalities and accidents do have a tendency to dip dramatically after the introduction of random stops, but the effect rarely

occurs in the U.S. Or perhaps it has something to do with the "highly visible" way police in Australia—ranging from buses, and increased enforcement hours that have led to 48 per cent or more of the population every year—go about their business. Regardless, three decades of research seem to point to the same conclusion: sobriety checkpoints aren't particularly good at catching drunk drivers, but they can be effective at dissuading some drinkers from getting behind the wheel in the first place.

Which brings us to the question of who is it that still drives drunk in this age of severe penalties and hyper-awareness? The 2008 Road Safety Monitor, an annual driving and driving-sounding produced by Ontario's TIRF, found 86 per cent of Canadians professed to



FURTHER REDUCING DRUNK DRIVING WILL TAKE CREATIVITY

SOBRIETY CHECKPOINTS can help dissuade some drunk drivers from getting behind the wheel

late, and may well be a function of the publicity surrounding the change, rather than the checkpoints themselves.

The gold-standard study of RBT, a 2001 review of the scientific literature by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, which examined 21 papers spanning from the early 1980s to the late 1990s, found "no evidence that either effectiveness for reducing alcohol-related crashes differed" from regular checkpoints. In 2009, another meta-analysis looking at the effect of both types of checkpoints reached a similar conclusion: "It had been assumed that checkpoints are more effective when BAC tests are taken from all drivers who are pulled over," wrote the Norwegian researchers. "The subgroup analysis does not seem to confirm this assumption."

And while both RBT and standard checkpoints reduced alcohol-related crashes by about 10 per cent, neither type seems to have much of an effect on reducing the massive numbers of deaths. The large drop in fatalities in Australia following the switch to RBT may have been a function of culture that rarely lets minor drunk drivers, say, the data analysis (Only four per cent of those drivers involved in fatal crashes in 1981 were over the limit, versus 36 per cent in the U.S., and 30 per

cent "very" or "extremely" concerned about impaired driving, more than crime (66 per cent), the economy (58 per cent), or global warming (50 per cent). "When asked about their own behaviour, only 5.2 per cent of respondents agreed to driving 'when they're high' if they were over the legal limit" in the previous 12 months. "In Canada, you're really talking about a small group of persistent offenders," says Ward Vloeberghs, the research scientist who compiled the report. "The majority of people do understand the danger of drunk driving. It's not like other road-safety issues, say speeding or tailgating, where people say they are concerned, but do it all the time."

How big is the habitual impaired driver problem? One 1995 study found that while only three per cent of American drivers have a DWI conviction, 12 per cent of all drunk drivers are habitual ones. But some individual states report that as many as 17 per cent of people arrested for impaired driving have prior drunk-driving convictions. And given an accurate measure is difficult, given the evidence that repeat drunk drivers become pretty adept at dodging their own arrestations. Proponents of RBT point to U.S. research suggesting police pull over 60 to 66 per cent of legally impaired drivers they pull over at sites

and spot checks (why this doesn't translate into more arrests at random checkpoints remains a mystery). Luck also comes into play: Canada's Department of Justice plays the odds of being arrested while drunk behind the wheel at somewhere between one in 500 and one in 2,000.

The truth is that for all the effort we've put into stopping impaired driving, we don't actually know much about those who engage in the behavior. Thomas Neebhaug, a sociologist at the University of Buffalo who is leading a study of drunk drivers for the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, says they fall into many subgroups: young people who don't yet know their limits, chronic offenders, workers with a history of abuse, and the cross-addicted. His research suggests that broad, get-tough solutions are unlikely to work; instead, programs are better. The individual subgroups need to reach, says Neebhaug, although not unachievable: few drunk drivers actually fit the definition of a severely dependent alcoholic, if only by virtue that they live so together enough to keep a car on the street.

One promising strategy in recent years has been the insurance of special classes for drunk drivers. Rather than sentencing repeat offenders to jail, the courts divert them into intensive alcohol treatment programs, subjecting them to random testing, and weekly progress appearances before a judge. There are now more than 100 such centers in the U.S. They not only save money—it costs about U.S. \$4,500 a day to monitor someone on probation, versus \$79 a day to keep them in jail—but seem to have significantly reduced recidivism as well.

Canada doesn't yet seem ready to consider such a move. Nor do the various levels of government seem that eager to embrace another proven method, the ignition interlock (championed by pretty much all the experts and also recommended in the justice committee report), which is said to reduce recidivism by 50 to 90 per cent. There are more votes in toughening legislation than in ensuring national technical standards for such devices, it seems.

The reality is that further reducing impaired driving is going to take a lot more creativity than we have so far demonstrated. In 1987, there were 16.9 million licensed drivers in Canada, and 4,287 convictions of all kinds by 2006. There were 22 million drivers, and just 1,589 fatalities. The roads are becoming steadily safer, yet impaired driving remains the number one criminal cause of death in the country, leaving hundreds more than homicide. Progress is relative. The pain of being a loved one to something as selfish as driving while drunk is absolute. ■

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Where to draw the line on child poverty



ANDREW COYNE

Introducing his favorite weapon as Parliament is considering the government of Canada to abolish child poverty by the year 2000, NDP leader Ed Broadbent compared a Dickensian vision of Canada: "Being a poor kid means backhanded from food banks and soup from soup kitchens. Mr. Spidee, to be a poor kid means trying to read or write or think on an empty stomach... One quarter of our children are wasting away." The remarks passed, unopposed.

That was on Nov. 24, 1990. Twenty years later, writing in the *Globe and Mail*, Broadbent found little improvement: "Canada's level of poverty is virtually unchanged.... After two decades, the child-poverty rate has dropped a mere two percentage points, to 9.5 per cent. We do realize that 600,000 Canadian kids wake up hungry and go to school trying to read, write and think on empty stomachs."

The answer is they don't. More than 600,000 Canadian kids are not waking up hungry today, any more than one quarter of Canadian children were "wasting away" 20 years ago. What Broadbent measures poverty in does from his rhetoric a state of absolute privation—hunger, an empty stomach, wasting away. But the numbers he cites are all based on relative measures: that is, how many children were less well off than other children.

That's the popping one-quarter figure from 1989: was the number of children living in families with less than one-half the median income before tax. The somewhat more subdued 11.9 per cent figure for 2000, down from 11.9 per cent in 1989, was based on yet another measure: Statistics Canada's Low Income Cut-off (LICO). LICO doesn't measure poverty, as it doesn't depend on income; the agency takes every opportunity to state explicitly that LICO is not a poverty line, and shouldn't be used as such.

The problem isn't hard to say what LICO does measure. It's clear that "one-half the

median" is a relative measure, and it's clear what it means. But LICO? Here's how Statistics Canada calculates it. First, they figure out how much a family on average income spends after tax on certain essentials: food, shelter, clothing. Then they take that proportion—for 2000 it was 41 per cent—and add 20 points to it. (Why 20 points? Why not?) Finally, they take the level of income at which a family would be spending 61 per cent of its income on essentials. If it spent as much as the average family, and then that family rate living on low income. How much is that? For 2000, it was \$11,745. For an individual living



WE NEED a measure of poverty that tells us if we're making progress against it

in the country, all the way up to \$40,086 for a family of seven in a large city. That's hardly poverty. But it's not starvation, either.

In other words, LICO is a relative measure, disguised as an absolute measure. Or at any rate, it hopelessly muddles the two. What is low people like Broadbent, or the activist group Campaign 2000, can claim that Canada has made virtually no progress against child poverty in the last 20 years. Indeed, how could it have? Absolute measurements don't even if everyone's income rises, the poverty rate does not change—not unless the distribution of income changes. It's a measure of inequality, not poverty. Statistics Canada counts as poor anyone who spends more than 61 per cent of their income on necessities. But that would have described a middle-class family in the 1990s.

Does it understand inequality matters, too? There are consequences when statistics

develop on orders, determined in a telling, not in contact with the mainstream. The inequality that matters here is not between rich and poor—how much the top-quintile earns versus how much the bottom quintile does—but between the poor and the middle class. A poor family is not described because it cannot afford a yacht, but because it cannot aspire even to the sorts of everyday things that average families take for granted.

Further, the line between absolute and relative concepts is not so clearly drawn in all that. Our notion of what is absolute privation will change over time, in the end prevailing notions of decency. Similarly, relative definitions have an element of the absolute to them: we will define one-half the median as "low income" when the median is a million dollars.

So there would be value in redefining data using both concepts, relative and absolute. We've got a useful relative measure as one-half the median, widely used in other countries. And we've got the basis for a good absolute yardstick in the "basic needs" index generated by professor Christopher Sarfo for the Fraser Institute, and in the Market Basket Measure provincial welfare department use to set social assistance rates.

Why do we need an absolute measure of poverty? Not, as critics charge, so we can define poverty out of existence, but so we can tell whether we're making any progress against it. What's important here is the level of any such measure—po-

verty Sarfo's measure is too stingy—but whether it allows us to make meaningful comparisons over time, and between countries. As it happens, the gaps here are rather large. Statistics Canada's level of child poverty has an flexibility over the last two decades to roughly five per cent—as you would expect, given the efforts of governments to address it through programs like the Canada Child Tax Credit and associated supplements. Moreover, we score quite high on the international standard, as exemplified by the Luxembourg Income Study—not far behind the Swedes and the Norwegians, though we perform rather less well on absolute measures.

Let's publish both views of the issue, absolute and relative, and learn what we can from both. But it's long past time we retired LICO. ■

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SEEKING A NATION'S FORGIVENESS

Does a Khmer Rouge leader, even a penitent one, deserve mercy?

BY CHRIS TENOVE • When the Khmer Rouge forces were routed from Phnom Penh in January 1979, they left behind a ritual and vacant cry. Following the odors of decaying bodies, Cambodians and Vietnamese fishermen discovered slugs in a hole surrounded by bullet holes. Inside they found 14 prisoners whose throats had been cut. Other rooms contained grisly evidence of torture: hair, lengths of chain, thousands of written confessions, photographs of bodies and terrified men and women. Scrambled across documents were orders from the island's commandant. On one interrogation record, he wrote, "They will be told everything." Inside a file of names, "kill every last one."

This was 5.2a prison, and last week that correspondent issued a final appointment to meet before a panel of three unelected judges, who will issue their verdict in early 2010. Kaing Guek Eav, known by his revolutionary name, "Duch," is the final defendant at the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC), a United Nations-backed tribunal. His millions of victims, Cambodians, broadcast live on television, it's debated at



A WOMAN prays for her father's portrait as 5-2a prison, now a genocide museum, Duch talks to his lawyer, Penpot Sak.

dispute tables and on radio programs. Each day, hundreds of Cambodians stand in Phnom Penh to attend in person, rising before the village in the middle of the night for the long bus ride. "I want to go to the trial to see what an evil person looks like," an elderly woman told me on the eve of her journey. "I want to see his real face."

Since the trial began in March, Cambodians have heard nothing but testimony about torture techniques and bizarre redneck experiments that day have been personally challenged by Duch's defense. Duch was not an evil man,

his lawyers argue, but a flawed one. Experts have testified to a new capitalist capitalism and ready to be reintegrated into society. Duch himself has a surprised something, many Cambodians would have considered penitence that they forgive him. He set the tone of the trial from his first statement. "I am responsible for the crimes committed on 8-15, especially the torture and execution of the people there," he declared on March 17. He spoke again to the victims and their families, and to all survivors of the Khmer Rouge regime before concluding, "I would like you to please leave an open window for me to seek forgiveness."

That's not the tack taken by the four other Khmer Rouge leaders now detained at the ECCC. They rarely likely won't begin for more than a year, but in public statements they have denied or downplayed their culpability. Nuon Chea, accused co-commander to Pol Pot, told *Haaretz* in 2007 that it isn't his role to challenge accusations against him. He suggested he would try to rehabilitate his regime's image—despite estimates that up to two million Cambodians died during Khmer Rouge rule between 1975 and 1979.

Duch held a lower position in the government than the others, but he is the most senior Khmer Rouge official to admit guilt. He has also provided information to victims' families and co-operated with the ECCC's investigators. François Bayrou, Duch's defense counsel, believes his client's candor will help Cambodia achieve truth and national reconciliation. "It's not been easy," says Bayrou, "but from the beginning, he has expressed remorse and accepted responsibility."

Duch's guilty plea has shifted the emphasis of the trial. The most difficult questions are not about what happened and when the prison walls, but what was going on in the mind of the defendant. Why did he do what he did? Was it because of a need or psychological

factor? Or could other "normal" Cambodians have done the same? These questions could shed light on one of the most troubling aspects of Khmer Rouge era. The leaders initiated disastrous policies, but they did not murder one quarter of the population with their own hands. Thousands of Cambodians separated children from their families, withheld medical treatment from the ill, and someone people who were innocent of any crime. Is Duch any different from them? And if there are many Duch alive in Cambodia today, can they too,

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PHOTO: DAOU/REUTERS; BOSE: BOSE; TENOVE: TENOVE

be reformed and reintegrated into society?

Since the trial began, Chum Mey has said with Duch from across the courtroom. May 7th, more of a dozen survivors of S-21, where perhaps 20,000 were tortured. Immigration reported the survivors and applied electric shocks to his forehead. Like other survivors, he was forced to confess to being a spy. I spoke with

seems pleased to use an old technique.

For the past two years, Duch has been confined to the ECCC's detention center, with little to do besides study the documents related to his case. "He knows the files better than anyone else in the courtroom," a member of the prosecution team admitted to me. "His ability to call up discussions from memory is chilling." Duch rarely takes pleasure from his mastery of the files. If a witness or lawyer makes a mistake, Duch will correct the error as he did schoolteacher's notes. While he takes responsibility for the overall culpability of S-21, he strongly challenges witnesses who allege he tortured prisoners himself. It was present at their executions.

"Duch lives in a community," says Judy Ledgerwood, an anthropologist at Northern Illinois University.



IF THERE ARE MANY LIKE DUCH ALIVE IN CAMBODIA TODAY, WHO KILLED THOUSANDS, CAN THEY TOO BE REFORMED?

Heard the grounds of S-21, which has become the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum. We walked through the mud brick exhibits where he was once attacked. May is terrible and dusty, but ancient that people hear his story. He lost his wife and son during Khmer Rouge rule, and he remains his ordeal with an air of personal bewilderment. How could this have happened?



CHUM MEY, a survivor of S-21 prison, stands in his former cell. Skulls of victims near a temple in Phnom Bheny village.

May was initially announced by Duch's biographer. But after months spent listening to the defendant, he has become more suspicious. He recalls Duch's public sentence is crafted to win a lighter sentence. "Duch is very cunning." May says, know him in court. "He is not in the long prison, but he decides what he has done himself."

Like May, I have spent days watching Duch in court, searching for clues. At 67, Duch is old and responsible looking, with neatly groomed silver hair, pepper hair and crisply laundered dress shirt. He responds politely to questions from judges, who pour down at him over their laptop computers. Sometimes he glances through the glass wall that separates the courtroom from the viewing gallery where hundreds of Cambodians sit, along with a stream of foreign observers. He

says "I think he feels some genuine remorse, but he also wants the story to be told in a way that doesn't make him look so bad." So that he needs to make some changes.

Ledgerwood was spent on months working at the S-21 archives, where she came to recognize Duch's handwriting. "He was not a spy in the machine," she argues. "He stood there and gave the orders—not to have to

or 15 people killed, but thousands."

To help make sense of the puzzle that is Duch, judges ordered an assessment by two psychological experts. They diagnosed him as free of psychotic illness, and instead described an ideologue who put the needs (not the) of individual lives. He was curious, kind and hard working, proud of doing a good job, with an empathy for those who suffered. While he ordered the execution of thousands, he found time to get married, father two children, and receive visits from his parents.

Despite the damning portrait of Duch as a conman: at S-21, the psychologists claim Duch today is a changed person. He has more empathy for victims. On several occasions he has wept publicly. The experts described his current life as a battlefield where different elements, including Khmer Rouge teachings, continue to fight for control. This war isn't over. Nevertheless, they have concluded Duch could be reintegrated into society.

Any story of Duch's transformation has to include his conversion to Christianity in 1996, when he was living under a pseudonym in a remote village. (He was discovered in 2009 on a military jail.) Duch found in Christianity a powerful religion—it had defeated Communism in countries like Poland—but offered him a new doctrine and a new own morality. Equally important, it offered the possibility of divine forgiveness for his sins. In this deeply Buddhist country, many Cambodians look at his conversion with great skepticism. "In Buddhism you pay the price for what you've done," explains professor Ledgerwood. "According to Buddhism, Duch struck. He's going to languish for an eternity, or at least for many life cycles, in a lower level of hell somewhere."

The judges at the ECCC aren't able to hand out that kind of sentence. They can, however, decide whether or not Duch will spend the rest of his life in prison. The prosecution has asked that he get 40 years. The defense seeks lighter: parole, at best. As he has confessed, pled guilty, and already been sentenced for 30 years, it's still possible that one day Duch could walk free. In deciding whether or not he should, judges face the question that challenges Cambodians who watch the trial. Can a man like Duch change? And can any amount of penance win a reprieve for someone who showed no mercy to his victims in the past? ■



NORWAY SHINING FOR SUSPECTS
Every year, children in the city of Bergen celebrate Christmas by creating what they call "the world's longest and greatest gingerbread house." But the British came only this year. Residents were shocked to find the village of 600 coastal houses destroyed, covered in the stink of their towns and great. Police inspector Erik Sverre says the culprit will be easy to nab. "The people who did this must be full of gingerbread dust. They will smell a long way."



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RUSSIA'S FAUX REFORMIST

Medvedev preaches openness, but he has made little progress

BY NANCY MACDONALD • The first signs of a split within the Kremlin arose a week ago, when President Dmitry Medvedev fired a key aide, Mikhail Lezin. The media adviser and former minister became the main senior person to exit from the administration, fueling increasingly heated speculation that the president may be breaking away from his mentor and predecessor, prime minister and former president Vladimir Putin, with whom Lezin was closely linked.

The making of a Kremlin insider wouldn't, on its own, have raised eyebrows. Lastly, however, Medvedev has been going off on his way to distance himself from the harder elements of the Putin era: no nationalism, no politics, no nationalism, and "seriously distorted" perception of human rights. He has

denounced the "thickness" of the governing party, United Russia, the country's "abominably low" competitiveness, and rampant corruption (currently, an estimated one-third of Russian gross domestic product goes to paying bribes). This fall, Medvedev, who is nearing the halfway point of his term, branded these themes into "Forward, like us!", a manifesto that reads like a platform for a liberal reformer, leading to whispered musings about Medvedev the modernizer, the Obama of Russia.

It's a convincing narrative—"until you look at the facts," says London-based Russian watcher Edward Lucas, author of *The New Cold War*. Under Medvedev, media has not become any freer, free speech has been increasingly frozen, and the number of murders and attacks on journalists and human rights activists has actually increased. Indeed, "the discrepancy between Medvedev's ideas of dynamism and democratic transparency" and the financial Times Discomfort Index



in an editorial last week, "are so far from reality as to sound grotesque."

"Even in Russia like Medvedev seriously, or believe he has the talent or the resources to modernize," says Lita Stetter, the Moscow author of *Putin's Russia*. A "general wish as army," concerns Olga Kryzhanovskaya, a top expert on Russia's political class, noting that 95 per cent of key Kremlin posts are still held by Putin allies. "This includes the police, the military, and the FSB, the secret police, where power struggles are truly totally decided

inside the opposition of Vladimir. He adds. It has also given Medvedev a window to discuss the economic crisis, and Russian feel in it: the country's decreasing lack of competitive rates, and its "harmful" dependence on raw materials. The economic downturn hit Russia harder than almost anywhere else, says Sergei Gerasimov, an expert on the Moscow Carnegie Center. "Even in Russia, it would be uncharitable to ignore the reality," he says.

The "transition" on Medvedev's democratic benefits, says Stevenson, came with the decision whether or not to proceed with a second trial for Mikhail Khodorkovsky, the founder of the Yukos oil company. The 2002 arrest of Khodorkovsky, once Russia's richest man, on charges of tax evasion and fraud, ended with the destruction of Yukos (which, after being pushed into bankruptcy, was swallowed by the state-owned oil company, Rosneft—the first in a series of re-nationalizations of Russia's largest companies). Khodorkovsky, a Putin rival who dared challenge the president's authority, earned an eight-year prison sentence, at odds in 2001, one year ahead of Russia's new presidential election.

For Medvedev, during Khodorkovsky's currently imprisoned in a Siberian work camp, could have signalled the fundamental philosophical and political shift he says he is committed to making. It could also have made

Medvedev a force within Russia, earned him praise from the West, and removed the Yukos stain that haunts over the Kremlin to this day, says Lucas. To do that, however, he would have had to override Putin, and all those who benefited from the dismantling of Yukos. In the end, says experts, the decision was likely most Khodorkovsky's absurdity, second trial on charges of embezzlement, now entering its 16th month, and a sentence of political repression designed to keep Khodorkovsky in jail "until he dies," says Washington-based expert Martha Glantz, senior associate with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

To some, Medvedev's recent speeches have evoked memories of perestroika and glasnost, and comparisons to modernizer and reformer Mikhail Gorbachev. Gorbachev, with a single act, the 1986 release of Andrei Sakharov—the Soviet Union's most famous political dissident—signalled radical change that his liberalization was real. Sakharov later engineered, not mere "theater" but "serious, true and genuine." In Medvedev's case, the new trial for Khodorkovsky, who he said he does not understand and charges against him and could face 22 more years in prison, epitomizes the "legal nihilism" the president is vowing to combat, and ends the opposite signal entirely. ■

CRITICS SAY Medvedev's shift is still a maneuver, and Putin is pulling the strings

BY NANCY MACDONALD

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IN AN effort to lure back gain-shy investors after a bad year, financial institutions are pushing a host of new retirement savings programs.

THE PRICE OF SECURITY

Behind many savings plans lurk steep costs. Who can you trust?

BY CHRIS SCHWENK — Michael Popowich, a dentist, suffered a minor heart attack at age 53. His doctor, not surprisingly, told him that going back to work was a bad idea. Faced with the sudden prospect of losing several of his prize-winning savings plans, Popowich sold his dental practice in Thornville, Ont., and began searching for a way to fund his unexpectedly long retirement.

Like many Canadians, he was attracted to the reliable monthly income stream that came with investing in income trusts through corporate pension plans. But he was forced to rethink his investing strategy after O'Brien said in 2006 that it would begin testing the popular income-trust vehicles in four years, citing concerns about a loss of tax revenue. The value of Popowich's holdings plummeted overnight.

Now, three years and one market crash later, he is one of millions of Canadians trying to recast their retirement portfolios. While some financial advisers are no doubt telling clients it's a good time to get back into the stock market, you can't blame people for being a little gun shy. But playing it safe in an era of historically low interest rates isn't a magic bullet either. "There are very few good options out there," Popowich says. "Interest rates aren't going to come back for a long time so you can't count on that. Corporate investments are risky because you don't know where you're going to go with those things."

**THE
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Financial institutions have taken notice of the dilemma and have rushed to develop a host of so-called "safe" investment products peppered with buzzwords like "prudence," "conservatism" and "security," but that still promise equity-like returns. Not surprisingly, though, the risk reduction comes at a price—often a steep one.

It's a confusing landscape littered with bad ideas and potential ticking time bombs—

all at a time when a do-it-yourself investing strategy is becoming more important than ever. The days when Canadians could depend on a company pension for a comfortable retirement are rapidly slipping away. "The demographics of our country, in terms of our aging population and the status of our pension plans means [Canadians] have to save and invest for themselves," says Alexander Ivin, the director of the Canadian Retired & Income Investors' Association. "But as many come to live on their savings, they will discover they don't have enough to live on."

That is, of course, unless they manage to invest wisely, something that these days is often easier said than done.

A recent industry poll suggests that nearly a third of Canadians planning for retirement are now investing more cautiously, up from just 20 per cent a year ago. The trend doesn't surprise Ron Hertz, president of the Investor Education Fund, a non-profit group established nearly a decade ago by the Ontario Securities Commission. Hertz says there has been a noticeable increase in the number of people sub-

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ing information about guarantees of investment certificates, or GICs, on the group's website.

With caution, the new buzzword, financial advisors have stepped in to market advice while guaranteeing they won't lose their principal. The advisors' means sound like the pot for the best blend of minimal risk and maximum return. But experts warn such products aren't always what they are cracked up to be.

On the GIC front, the trend in recent years has been toward so-called bare-bones GICs. CIBC's Stock Market Advantage GIC is a typical example. For a minimum investment of \$10,000, it offers the chance "to take advantage of the



MANY INVESTORS DON'T UNDERSTAND THE COMPLEX INVESTMENT PRODUCTS THEY'RE BUYING, SAYS HODGSON.

'PEOPLE NEED TO MAKE IT AS SIMPLE AS POSSIBLE. THAT WAY THE RISKS ARE IDENTIFIABLE.'

says Hodson. "And you pay for it in return."

Another increasingly popular investment category is the guaranteed investment with desired benefit plans sold by Canadian life insurance companies. Manulife Financial Inc. was among the first out of the gate in Canada with its Income Plus product, which has accumulated some \$10 billion in assets to date.

The plan, also known as variable annuities, target baby boomers close to retirement who are afraid they will outlive their savings. Investors essentially fund their retirement savings in exchange for guaranteed income as annual payments, say five per cent, over a set period—usually 20 years—or for life after the investor hits age 65. It also gives them the opportunity to increase the size of the monthly payments by spreading their investment across a lineup of segregated funds run by third-party managers—think of it as a bet that the underlying funds' assets form a certain portfolio can be easily for the worse reasons. "There's a falling of safety that you pay for,"

states payout levels are misestimated.

Greg Holoban, a financial adviser with ScotiaMcLeod, says a key problem with any guaranteed product is not necessarily the cost, which may be justified depending on the value investors place on security. What concerns him is the overall complexity. "The fine print is absolutely huge," he says. The reality, he says, is that many investors often have no idea what some of financial instruments they are actually purchasing, which can be a recipe for disaster down the road. He recommends that investors stick to what they understand, even if the potential benefit doesn't seem as eye-popping. "People need to try and make it as simple as possible. At least that way the risks are identifiable."

Simon Beall, president of Canada's Small Investor Protection Association, says he will never forget the time he stepped into a chair over the back of a conference workshop on derivative-based investment products. For those who are unfamiliar with derivatives, which is likely most of the population, they are complicated financial instruments that allow traders to speculate on the movement in value of an underlying asset, as opposed to trading the asset itself. Oil futures are one relatively straightforward example. Credit default swaps, a type of derivative that functioned as insurance for the U.S. mortgage-backed securities markets, are another. Credit derivatives were also featured in the \$30 billion explosion of Citi-

ade's market for asset-backed commercial paper—a supposedly "safe" investment that rang everyone from small investors to major corporations.

"There were regulators and industry people there, but I had a blue suit on, so I looked past everybody else," says Beall. "I was amazed at some of the things that were being sold in public. They were making gross amounts of

money by their admission to invest in a leveraged mutual fund, a highly risky investment that promises to magically increase returns by using borrowed money. Of course, the flip side of such an strategy is that potential losses are magnified as well. "People can lose their shirts,"

Even relatively straightforward investments such as mutual funds, held by nearly half of

investors with MDRs—funds do have expenses after all, including management salaries, research, distribution and marketing—the professional investors investors are paying for don't always yield a market-leading performance. And the higher a fund's return, the better it needs to perform in order for investors to make money.

A report released earlier this year by the Institute for Retirement Planning in Canada found that Canada's fifth-grade when it comes to fund fees. "Canada has some of the highest management expense ratios," the report said, adding that the typical investor in a Canadian equity fund pays a MER of between two and 2.5 per cent. "Canadian investors do not pay much attention to this" and are uncomfortable with them "because they don't know how to use this information to make investment decisions. Their money tends to get dragged into funds that pay better returns and, hence, higher MERs."

High fees are partly responsible for the growing popularity of exchange-traded funds in recent years. ETFs offer lower fees and function in a sort of cross between stocks—they're purchased from a broker and trade on major exchanges—and a mutual fund that allows investors to buy into a portfolio of securities.

While it might still seem as uncertainty in its down with financial advisers and investors, it doesn't mean how they get paid, hold back says it's critical for investors to be able to have updated and frank discussions. He stresses that there are no bad ones and that there is a time and place for more complex investing strategies, depending on the individual's circumstances.

In the end, though, it all comes down to being educated about your portfolio and realistic about its ability to deliver returns. "Don't get out," says Holoban. "Don't try to outmaneuver anyone and everything you do. And make sure the level of risk is appropriate." Otherwise, your investments are likely to be making everybody a nice chunk of change—everybody, that is, but you. ■

CANADIANS PAY NOTORIOUSLY HIGH MUTUAL FUND FEES COMPARED TO AMERICANS



MANAGEMENT EXPENSE ratios paid by a typical investor for a Stock-Income Fund (left) and an Equity Fund

money and even the people selling these products don't understand them."

It all raises the question of who investors are responsible to when everyone is eager to get a head of their pocket and the rules of the game can be an intricate ballet. The answer, according to Beall, is not always comforting. While most financial advisers are honest about working people, Beall says that the systemic distrust against the small investor since money advisers, although not all, are paid commissions based on the investment they sell. And while investors are ultimately responsible for their own decisions, Beall says they are effectively putting themselves against the legions of high-paid financial professionals who have created the investment products in the first place. "There is such a proliferation of products, there individual can't evaluate it," says Beall. "They don't know what's good and what's bad."

He recalls a story of one retiree who was

all Canadian, an elderly with less and she got that can be easy to read. Don Johnson is a retired journalist who lives in Victoria and is doing with the financial adviser with investing in funds. He has launched a letter writing campaign to regulators and consumer firms, calling for greater clarity on how they disclose information to investors, taking particular umbrage with a unique Canadian invention called a "smar fund." Based on the management expense ratios, or MERs, charged by mutual funds, smaller funds are more likely to have the ongoing expenses and commissions of professional financial advisers and effectively act as a sales commission. "I sometimes tell my friends, 'Do you pay trailer fees?' and they say, 'I haven't got it,'" Johnson says. "Most people don't know anything about the fees they pay, and don't try to design."

The question of mutual fund fees has been a hot topic in recent years among Canadian investors. While there's nothing inherently



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BECKSON WASHY? Jurgenssen David for Matt Phillips's beer. In Victoria, B.C., microbrewery, Phillips Brewing Co. is growing fast.

SMALL ALES, BIG SALES

Craft beer-makers are thriving even as big brewers struggle

BY NANCY MACDONALD • Longyear, B.C.'s Phillips Brewing Co. doubled its sales. Nine months, the Victoria microbrewery—a gold medalist at the Canadian Brewing Awards—will double capacity, says its amiable master brewer, Matt Phillips. The Nova Scotia native launched the brewery, one of seven for tartan beer-makers, a year ago, pagging credit cards after banks took a pass on his business plan. Last year was among his best yet. “All the brewers I talk to have had a really good year,” says the 35-year-old, who is hoping to begin exporting to the U.S. in a nascent global economy, few other businesses can boast of such success.

In B.C. alone this year, starting of new microbreweries opened their doors, among them Vancouver's Brewery and Forge and Irvington on Vancouver Island and Triple Island and Pilsner Brewing Co. in northern B.C.—all proung their product higher than mass-market beers. That, beer has long proved more recession-resistant than other industries. But last year, Canada's overall beer industry, which has been flat since 2002, dipped 1.2% in sales. Even heavyweights Molson and Labatt saw sales dip by three percent. In the U.S., beer sales dipped a whopping 1.5 percent in the final quarter of

2008. Unlike “craft” beer makers like Phillips, however, are facing the second. Despite a higher price point, and without marketing or advertising, they're seeing double-digit growth. Indeed, they represent the industry's fastest-growing segment—and they are working fast into the mass-market brewers who dominate Canada's \$5 billion beer industry.

Last year, B.C. microbrewers posted sales increases of 34 per cent, outpacing even the biggest, more established craft market in the U.S., where sales grew by 15 per cent to \$6.1 billion. In Ontario, where microbrewers have captured five per cent of the market share, the provincially-owned LCBO ring in \$42 million in craft sales, a 30 per cent increase over the previous year. Yukon Brewing Co., one of the country's fastest-growing breweries, has even begun exporting single-brands like Molson in Whitehorse, its local market—a first that, 10 years ago, would have been unthinkable.

“The market is going like gangbusters,” says Paul Woodhouse, a character brewer who specializes in the beer industry for Vancouver's

coolest's First City Cidering. “The big trend in beer right now is a switch from industrial beers.” Because more and more people want a “really tasty, happy, flavorful beer,” he says, a bunch of new craft beers have come online. With names like Goldklopp, Skull Split or Shred Drunk, Tuna Street, Old Leghopper, Ale Mary Pilsner, and Black Hand of God, they're easy to spot.

Craft brews, known for an ever-increasing array of exotic ingredients, like saffron, honey, dark chocolate, bergamot oranges and black cherries, also fit with the foodie zeitgeist—although they've lagged well behind wine and organic produce, says Robert Kasser, who owns Toronto, B.C.'s Crenshaw Ale, an organic microbrewery. “Our palates have evolved,” says Kasser, who adds we're moving away from industrial beer the same way we have from Wonderbros, processed cheese, and other marvels of modern food science. (And yes, beer geeks are likely to seek their sates despite a pink glow, rife in the notes of a sublimely pale ale, or pick out the base

blend: scents in a Belgian style stout brain.)

“Once you taste a craft ale,” says Nicholas Pashley, author of the new book, *Craft Ale: A Canadian History of Beer in Canada*, “there's no turning back.” *Breweries* now the top-selling Wine of Beers in Canada, one-half million in each month, one-third the hops and one-fourth the B.C. ale, a standard measure for brewers, then a standard West Coast triple ale. It also has five per cent alcohol content, picking, says Pashley, all the punch of a four per cent.

In response to this industrial shift, even the big microbrewers are trying to get “crafty”—a sure sign they're nervous about a changing palate, and the army of tiny competitors slipping away from their market share. Last year, MillerCoors entered the game with three distinctive “small batch” beers (“Craft Beer: Done Last”) in cheekily promoted. Last summer, the Belgian Brachian launched Brachian Double Ale and Jack's Pumpkin Spice Ale, and marketing campaign featuring vivid descriptions of flavors, aromas, pouring techniques and food pairings. The big beer makers have been trying to buy their way into the sector. This fall, Molson Coors, which owns Crenshaw Spring Brewery in Ontario, snapped up Granite Hill Brewing Co., one of B.C.'s first microbreweries. MillerCoors also owns Blue Moon, the second-

biggest-selling craft beer in the U.S. MolsonCoors, which also has C.K. Roach's group producing how to make beer more interesting to women—an audience they've long shunned off with heavy, sweet sables, but also launched low-calorie Molson 67. In Quebec, it's also test driving another gamut: Molson M4 duster “madder, finer bubbles.”

Canada's beer landscape has changed considerably in the past decade, and not for the better for big brewers. Sales of the former

MACROBREWERS ARE TRYING TO GET 'CRAFTY'—A SURE SIGN THEY'RE NERVOUS

macrobrewers, Labatt Blue, are “shrinking precipitously,” says Pashley. Labatt's owner, Anheuser-Busch, is moving picking powerhouse global brand Stella Artois to Canada's MolsonCoors, which continues to struggle under foreign ownership, it down five per cent from 2007 to a 40 percent share of the national market. Intense brand loyalty is a thing of the past, says new CEO Dave Perken.

Still, big beer makes up 85 per cent of Canada's beer market. And they're doing their best to make sure that's not eroded any further. In Ontario, the Beer Store, which repre-

sents 80 per cent of beer sales, is owned by MolsonCoors, Labatt and Stearns, a set-up that limits exposure of small brewers. Currently, Labatt and MolsonCoors each have bigger sales than all the microbrewers combined. But traditional retailers—supermarkets, liquor stores, and restaurants—tend to stock up on big brands with Molson's “Iron Canadian” (which will have a tough time building up its own success). Successful microbrews have beaten two mega corporations, and neither one is Canadian-owned (they're not even U.S.-owned anymore).

With wine but on its heels, the country's beer market has tipped out. “The big question industry analysts are asking,” says Woodhouse, is “where will earnings come from most?”

For craft beer-makers, it seems the sky's the limit. Halifax's Propeller Brewing Co. has seen four years of 20 per cent growth. Oskar Blues, which was also taken by 64 per cent last year, even poached a chief brewer from Coors—he was hooked, he says, by small brewer's “huge” growth potential.

But what are the odds during such a tight credit market when sales are 15 per cent, the growing demand for microbrews rising from drinkers themselves, who are seeking for fresher, tastier beer than they've made closer to home, by locally owned companies?

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EMPLOYEE OF THE WEEK

TO SERVE AND PROTECT—AND GET FREE ICE CREAM
Shopping at a Sam's Jerry's for cream shop on Bay St., police officer Michael Brown made his expectations clear. “We prefer you. Why don't you come in?” he asked an employee who gave him two boxes of strawberry elite vanilla ice cream, his favourite of choice. Brown left without paying, leaving the treat with his girlfriend just outside the shop. The officer, who also “forgot” to pay for dinner at the International House of Pancakes, was fired.

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SCOTT FREE

**Scott Thompson of
Kids in the Hall talks
about having cancer**

BY JOSHUA OSTROFF • "What I won the lymphoma? I had no idea. I was even excited," jokes Scott Thompson. "There are so many other people that are more deserving." The ever-funny member of cult sketch comedy troupe Kids in the Hall says this, as one might imagine, with tongue in cheek and dressed in drag. But though Thompson may be joking, he's not kidding: this past spring, the Canadian sitcom star was diagnosed with cancer. "I have... I had stage B-cell non-Hodgkin's germinal lymphoma."

Thompson looks pretty fantastic, in fact—not could he have any dimples, blond hair, fake eyebrows and shockingly thick-lashed beauty treatment. "I'm a comedian and a model and a musician," he says with a grin. "I'm a rock star in North Bay, Ont., he's teased in a wheelchair after winning a self-made show on the Kids' comeback tour. For the CBC. Made up as an indie consequence of Thompson's childhood nickname—the youth consisting of a head completely only two weeks before blaring. "My body looks good," he smiles. "But it's fragile."

The upcoming Kids reunion is an eight episode murder mystery called *Death Comes to Town*. Yes, really. "This series has been bracketed by theme and radiation—and in the middle is this wonderful phrase 'Death Comes to Town'." Thompson, 39, nervously. Making it even more surreal is that North Bay is where he lived until age eight. "In this

funny way, I've come home to be born," he says, eyes gleaming. "With what I've been through this year, to die from the sales here has been a really remarkable experience."

Thompson joined the Kids in the Hall—along with Dave Foley, Kevin McDonald, Bruce McCulloch and Mark McKinney—a quarter-century ago. Their sketch series, which aired on CBC, CTV and HBO between 1988 and 1995, made them some of the most popular comedians in Canada. But after his subsequent role on *The Larry Sanders Show*, Thompson's career has largely evolved into a series of one-off guest spots (including a cameo on *Seinfeld*).

A well-received 2008 Kids in the Hall reunion tour, featuring all five original members, led to this TV series. And then, shortly after the reunion was given a green light, Thompson's cancer was discovered. "I was out of my head," he says. "I went into complete shock. I spent the night trying to find the closest wall to hide against. The next morning when I woke up, I had pain in my stomach."

For Thompson, the greatest source of stress was a 1979 school shooting he witnessed at Central Secondary in Brampton, Ont. "It was my class," he says. "The shooter killed Thompson's teacher, a student and then himself." "It was as if the bullet had been travelling for 30 years and they got me. His name was Michael. He sat behind me. I was transported back to that day in hiding—it's as if the trigger for my cancer was an actual trigger. But as a teenage boy, I was not a trigger. It made me go immediately to the device."

That doctor diagnosed Thompson's cancer as cancer. His location meant surgery wasn't an option. "There was no way other than to poison the lymphoma," he says, and though chemo is early, in stage one, would prove vital to Thompson's recovery, it made the experience no less overwhelming. "There's no such thing as an artist in a hospital or a chemo ward. The first thing I did when I was told was pray."

The next day he did receive his prognosis: the Winnipeg Comedy Festival. He was initially worried about the risk of cancer, but it may already prove a boon. "My job is being light on the darkness—and guys are like, they don't need me anymore. I'm moving on to a new group, other people."

One thing that he had Thompson power



IT HELPED Thompson that the other Kids didn't treat him any differently: "They accused me of doing it on purpose to grab the spotlight."

through was that the other Kids didn't treat him any differently. "They teased me, even about having cancer—saying it was of doing it on purpose to grab the spotlight. But it's important to have people not tell how you're doing and back in you with big witty eyes."

One thing helped Thompson's cancer was that he was in a hospital for radiation therapy. He doesn't use the word "cured," but without his chemo and surgery, or perhaps without the radiation of therapy, he'd be home in Toronto in November. Thompson looks fantastic and more relaxed than he did in North Bay. He looks better than well.

well, and he's best by his best friend than being hidden for much of the past six weeks. "Radiation was more than I expected," he explains from the couch of his Toronto apartment. "That's the problem with only talking to cancer survivors. You should talk to someone who gets it on their stomach—someone who understands pain and gain and education like I can't believe."

Thompson is planning to turn his cancer experience into an one-man show. Formerly he used to go to work for *Weekend Update* on *Saturday Night Live* and *20/20's* *Survivor*. "I've never been so excited about performing

live, or at least performing stand up. I really feel like I have nothing to say anymore. What's going to happen to me? Someone's going to run laugh."

Thompson also hopes to be an inspiration to others. "Did you see my pants?" he asks, pointing to a couple of jeans on a nearby sofa. "I know it's embarrassing, but I'm going to wear it. We had the worst cancer. He came back and played great hockey. I find that incredibly inspiring."

"If I can know someone back and play back, then I can play back." ■



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FRANCE: DOING IT LIKE THE HAMSTERS DO

Who knew? Almost of being like a hamster? At one special hotel in Nantes, France, three dreams can be realized. Guests who stay in the "Hamster Villa" can run on a wheel, eat, sit, sleep on a hamster, drink from a giant hamster fountain, and even drink from a giant hamster fountain. It currently costs about \$160 per night, but the price is soon expected to rise after all, what self-respecting rodent would live in a cage without wireless Internet and a big-screen TV?



PHOTOGRAPH BY J. HARRIS FOR TIME

SAVED BY THE BELL

The firefighter's job is changing as ever more medical calls come in

BY DANIEL MENIKOFF • "Missie," an elderly Toronto senior whose clocking of calls during her young life, is now well known to the firefighters at the subway station that when her address is announced on the loudspeakers, they all bellow her name. They lumber up the dark stairwell to her sparsely furnished apartment as often as three or four times a night. On that particular occasion, they leave a roller boarding and give her oxygen. After the paramedics arrive, her colour improves. She signs a waiver, refusing to allow EMS to take her to hospital. On his way out, the fire chief explains engines at a subway, and places a laundry dublet in the sink.

While firefighters may be known more for their courage than caregiving, the reality, says Ben Brimley, a postdoctoral fellow at York University's Institute for Health Research, is "they're doing more emergency medical care than anything else." In 2006, 52 per cent of calls to the Toronto Fire Service were medical in nature—a statistic that grew up five days to 10 months observing the city's firefighters. Her research, which includes the visit to Missie's home, is slated for publication by the McGill University. The next spring is a book entitled *Medicines and Everyday Life*. According to Brimley, the "worldwide expansion of some health care provision" to firefighters has been brought on by several factors: better fire provisions, which has freed up firefighters for other tasks; aging baby boomers; a dearth of family doctors, which has forced marginalized people into the use of a way into the system. It is a shift that has been subtle and the source of conflict. The result, however, is clear: an increasing number of calls to firefighters in an emergency.

Firefighters have long played an informal role in health care delivery. Until the '70s, when formalized paramedics became an integral component of emergency health care, they were often called upon to administer oxygen and deliver CPR. Though paramedics eventually assumed, and eventually improved upon, pre-hospital care, firefighters continued to assist, particularly on calls where lives are at risk. (In some smaller cities, like Brandon, Man., and Lethbridge, Alta., the paramedics service grew out of the fire departments; today members are cross-

trained to perform all emergency rescue tasks.) With the push to organize national major cardiac arrests—often firefighters begin to determine after just a minute—firefighters were called more often, to large part due to the speed at which they can arrive on

of medical attention firefighters can provide, they've not been able to put their new skills to use. "We didn't anticipate there would be such a firestorm going to get through the system," he says. "There are members' point of view, it's extremely frustrating."

According to Jim Lee, a former firefighter who's now based in Ontario, the greatest promise of the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF), "We've been a myopic, an ongoing bias, to educate the politicians

in cardiac arrest. But in C.C., change could be on the horizon. The province is reviewing regulations that govern what firefighters can and can't do in emergency, and, as a pilot project, Prince George firefighters will soon be allowed to perform some EMS-level skills under the supervision of a medical director. But as they inch further into the realm of emergency medicine, firefighters also find the muscles at odds with those whose vision

many function." Some paramedics express concerns about medical oversight and training of firefighters would be paramedics' best bet to form competition to gain acceptance into difficult college programs, which take years to complete. But beyond that, Ottawa paramedic chief Anthony De Marco says women fire departments would determine a wider range of medical calls would determine what they were trained to do. "I would be doubtful that the suppression capacity is any way. What if there was a major fire?" Currently, he says, he's up to 100 per cent of the total EMS call volume.

Though the turf war does not play out on the ground, where, by all accounts, the fire action becomes emergency response as in good, it has caused some animosity between the sectors. Dispatch times are a major sticking point for firefighters in life-threatening situations, they say they are sometimes delayed after EMS, despite the fact that they can often arrive faster. EMS, in a nutshell, says that life is at risk. (The process moves, but generally a 911 call is answered by an ambulance in a certain location, who transfers it to fire, police or ambulance. In life-threatening situations, such as a heart attack, the ambulance dispatch forwards the call to police and fire. Likewise, in the case of a burning building, fire sometimes police and ambulance.)

Still, in placing their case for a more far-reaching role, firefighters often cite Winnipeg as an example of their services being recognized. There, after a decade-long attempt to incorporate EMS and fire, the services reached an agreement in 2007. Though two separate services, they are coordinated by a single chief, and dispatch is coordinated from one centre. Significantly, there is a cross-trained firefighter-paramedic on every pump truck. In firefighters find that EMS is not needed, they can call ambulances, which are often in short supply, is sent back.

The Winnipeg agreement seems to be working. Last year, the fire service handled some 30,000 medical calls on their own. But the paramedics' community. The Winnipeg mayor says of a paramedic business the firefighters and paramedics depend on the joint vision, by the time a call was reached, their union had become reinforced in Winnipeg's health disputes with the city. According to fire and paramedic chief Jim Brimley, the difficulty came from trying to harmonize two distinct workplace cultures, with different seniority structures, different evaluation of identity. Brimley, who in the 1960s worked for Frank Plimley, the 80th firefighter who passed away in a fire, says he has a unique understanding of changing something as simple as a rank assignment. "When you do that, someone appears to have lost, and that causes conflict."

But even informally, the cultural divide between firefighting and medical is the risk runs deep. Of the 10 firefighters Brimley interviewed, "all but four expressed concerns ranging from discomfort to outright rejection of their work in the health care profession," which, he says, has "shaken the higher management level of services and firefighting culture." As a firefighter in his study explains, "The things they're asking us to do are so far outside the realm of what we understand, that you almost feel like 'I'm losing some of what I was really excited to be.'"

But regardless of any apprehensions they may have, firefighters and paramedics, for better or worse, share the risk involved according to the public need. This move, it seems, is the reason Toronto firefighters continue to be based on Missie's street. As one member told Brimley, "Some people would say the's a nuisance, but she needs help. There is no one else. So we do it."



EVERY PUMP TRUCK in Winnipeg has a cross-trained firefighter-paramedic



LAST YEAR IN WINNIPEG, THE FIRE TRUCKS HANDLED SOME 30,000 MEDICAL CALLS ON THEIR OWN

some. Due to pressure from health insurers, in which case, a pump truck is barely more than five minutes away.

Today, the Toronto experience is hardly unique. In Prince George, B.C., where, according to fire captain and union president John Jensen, two-thirds of calls to fire departments are medical, "Everybody that goes into the business now fully understands it's a huge part of the job." In Toronto, however, their need and capabilities are not understood. In fact, says the Prince George fire service because the first in the province to increase the medical training of most of its members to Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) level. But because of provincial regulations limiting the degree

that we're a resource that they should be using." In 2002, the IAFF made a promise to the Romanow commission, arguing that "the true potential of firefighters in the realm of EMS remains largely untapped." But despite emergency room delays, which, in some circumstances, tie up ambulances to the point where not a single EMS vehicle is available for hours at a time, Lee says that, since 2002, not much has changed. "The political will is not there."

Though the specific guidelines that regulate the provision of emergency medical care vary, in both Ontario and B.C., firefighters are limited to basic assistance in life-threatening situations, such as providing oxygen to an

ambulance in pre-hospital care; paramedic. Dr. Darryl Wilson, president of Ontario's Professional Paramedics Association, describes the push by fire departments to take on more medical responsibility as purely "hand-over-until-we-can" in the face of a "dismal pro-

TONICS

INSTEAD OF ASPIRIN, WHY NOT A CUP OF PINK TEA?

For those in need of pain relief, a cup of pink tea might be just as good as aspirin, experts say. In this study, mice were given two kinds of analgesics: one, as Aspirin solution, or water. A hot liquid then brewed onto their paws, scientists observed how long it took each mouse to lick its paw for pain relief. Mice who got the tea took longer to react to pain, just like those that got Aspirin. And researchers concluded both treatments were equally effective.

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P.D. James dishes on detective fiction

The famous novelist has some strong opinions about the state of her craft **BY BRIAN BETHUNE**

books

Mention of iconic British mystery writers tends to bring to mind the names of living dead writers—Agatha Christie (naturally), Dorothy Sayers, Ngaio Marsh and Victoria Thompson among them—and one living one: Phyllis Dorothy James, Baroness James of Holland Park in the County of Suffolk—more commonly (in every sense) known as P.D. James, is by now in her by no means finished writing career of 47 years. James has so far produced 12 books, most of them bestsellers as well as critically acclaimed, garnered prizes ranging from the Arts and Letters Award to the CWA Lifetime Achievement Award and even became the subject of a French PhD thesis, *Promesses et promesses* (she recently rejected a request to do it).

In her recent book, *Talking about Detective Fiction*, she comments on the changing landscape for mystery and thriller and how some of the most prominent fictional purveyors (including herself) have gone about staying fit. When James writes about her craft, she comments accurately, both for her own problems and as a direct link to the so-called golden age of Christie and the other Queens of Crime. After all, she was there—Depression era teenager who would move her pen was to buy the latest Sayers (see).

While James cannot recall a time when she didn't want to be a writer, she turned to the task with determination only in her mid '50s, when she felt she had had choice. James had met her husband, Connor White, a medical academic, while she was working at a theatre in Cambridge. He came back from the Second World War diagnosed with schizophrenia, and spent years in psychiatric hospitals before his death in 1964. Connor was never unhappy either, James once dryly commented, having been well prepared by his education at a minor public school and in the army. "For some time," she recalled, "he worked at the

library but also captained the soccer team. I don't know whether any games were played away, but those no home ground had their moments of eccentricity. Connor was not pleased when, during one game, the goal-keeper began leaving his voice and stood immobile, eyes raised to heaven, while the ball whizzed past him into goal."

However devastating the emotional toll of Connor's disease, the practical impact lay in James's pressing need to support their two young daughters. She made do by doing administrative work, and embarked on a successful 30-year career in the British bureaucracy, first in health services and later in the criminal justice system. And the writing—fictional purveyors, not so very classically self-supporting! Indeed, James, in the days in an interview with *Maddux*, "didn't want to write anything about the police, not about the war or my husband's illness." Besides, the half-century-facinated since adolescence with the question of how to structure a novel, what balance of character, setting and plot a writer should strike, and—always practical—the varied to be published Detective fiction, where structure is paramount and color (you usually) high, and no one dares to tread outside the rules, was a natural choice: James's main protagonist, New Scotland Yard Constable Adam Dalglough, named after her English teacher at Cambridge High School for Girls, made the first of his 14 appearances in *Curfew* (1981).

He was a contemporary descendant of the golden age of detectives, a professional doing a disagreeable job, not an amateur detective.

He was sensible but not sentimental—hardly murder itself (she doesn't seem to be any thing James despises more than soggy sentimentality)—and given added gravitas by the fact he was an older man who had lost both wife and child in childhood. That first James from the novel to craft some of (James is a tranquilist, which, she says, she would have found odd. And painful too, perhaps, at that point in her life.) Dalglough's tragic past also considerably upped his appeal to women readers. But as attractive and modest as he is, Dalglough just squeaked into the under the feminist revolution.

"Certainly, I would have etc. and a woman detective were I starting now," James says. "Back then women police looked after female prisoners and, as I recall, worked with children, they certainly weren't detectives." Even when, in the flesh of "his" characters, James wrote the first of her two novels featuring police investigator Cordelia Gray in 1972, the title evoked what male officers thought of a female detective. *An Unsuitable Job for a Woman*. James has never considered it her least naturalized critique society in anyway. "No, my job is to combine the best novel I can write with a satisfying and satisfactorily solved mystery story"—but the unraveling of working women, especially in male-dominated fields (like the British police and doll service), have always surfaced in her books.

As women began to rise in the police hierarchy, eventually to the highest rank ("I never thought I'd live to see a woman chief constable, but I have"), Dalglough acquired a female junior associate, Kate Madox, whose private life occu-



JAMES admires the work of fellow detective novelists Ian Rankin and Sara Paretsky

slowly affects cynicism. In one novel, "social services exposed her to look after her aged parents in a way they never would have asked of a male police officer," James notes. The novel is also admired Chicago writer Sam Hynes, "the most remarkable of the moderns," who James believes "consciously" use detective fiction for social criticism in his novel *A Very Wicked Game*. "A courageous, socially liberated female investigator."

Partly a natural talent in writing, partly political rage in James. His debut *Firestorm* among contemporary crime writers verges on his war-time warily risked settings. His novel *C.F. James's* series about homicide detective lawyer Matthew Shardlake—highly intelligent, liberal minded and (no surprise) unconventional—set in the reign of Henry VIII, places her with its present accuracy. The BBC is soon to film the first Shardlake novel, with the lawyer played by Kenneth Branagh, who is starting to make a habit of this sort of thing, having recently depicted Swedish detective Kurt Wallander in the TV adaptation of Peter Hacks's highly popular series.

Business James is not only a model of courtesy—she points as the interviewers expressed regret that she would prevent her usual "topical" visit to Canada—but mention of Wallander brings out her more warlike side. She deplores "the modern tendency to signify type serial detectives as solitary, divorced, hard-drinking, psychologically flawed and disillusioned. And they all have trouble with their children! If someone created a highly skilled detective who says his work and spends his free time playing the cello, I doubt readers would find him credible, but he would certainly be as original." (Born of social inequality from Dorothy Sayers's hero Lord Peter Wimsey lived the same reaction, such as James admires when Wimsey is reduced to tears on the occasion of a murder he was instrumental in solving, James writes that "some readers"—i.e., P.D. James—may find he would have confirmed himself in collecting first editions.) [He found the results of this work so troubling.]

James is also a huge fan of Ian Rankin, creator of Edinburgh Detective Inspector John Rebus, for much the same quality she

adores in Sayers. "You get a much better idea of what it means to be a police officer in Edinburgh, and of Edinburgh itself, from a Rebus story than from any official report," says James, who has read (and written) more than a few detective novels in her life. Admirable too is Rankin's "tenacity" in allowing Rebus to tell a boldness not shared by most detective novel writers. Most such writers have their emotions fixed over the age first assigned to them. That includes James. Did you, a senior detective in 1962, must be almost as old as his senior himself, but remains as subtle, ingenious and energetic as the deer. Far from taking it easy in the evening hours, Dalgleish actually got married.

She deplores 'the modern tendency to stereotype senior detectives as disillusioned'



MATTHEW SHARDLAKE (left), C.J. James (left), Sam Hynes (right)



red in 2001 after his last case, *The Private Patient*. Still, James notes skilfully, Rankin did not follow in the unrevocable footsteps of Nicolas Freeling, who killed off his creation, Dutch detective Puz van der Valk. "Rebus could come back, he's only retired."

One reason James admires masters of setting is that, for all her skill in characterisation and plot, an acute sense of place may be her finest gift too. It's certainly the trigger that launches all her novels. "I have a very strong response to what I feel is the spirit of a place," she says. "When I come upon the right setting, I feel immediately, 'This is where it all hap-

pened.'" In *Telling About Detective Fiction* she describes how she moved on a deserted single beach in East Anglia, listening to the wind and sea, and thinking it would have looked and felt much the same surrounding a Thax, "turning my eye to the south. I saw the great outline of Snettisham's ancient power station and immediately I knew that I had found the setting for my next novel," 1984's *Private Patient*. That kind of setting, a place of clear, sharp isolation where you can see and truly know characters eventually boils over—in standard in James's work, and includes a die-die-die call to *(North in Italy Order)*, an exclusive plastic surgery clinic (*The Private Patient*), and a famous lab (*Death of an Expert Witness*).

James, among the most novelistic practitioners ever of her craft, feels no particular need to defend its value. The claim that detective fiction's formulaic requirements—for a mystery, a circle of suspects, a solo hero—prevent clinical reality advances makes her laugh. It equates, in her opinion, to saying a secret technical demands mean Shakespeare's poetry, by definition, cannot be art. "And how many writers continue to find these structures actually liberating?" she also refers to the great flood of worldwide crime writing she sees today. The detective story classically means order from chaos: setting things right again, or in right as they can be in the wake of disorder, a "crime" crime that damages everyone it touches.

That's why detective fiction is popular, James argues, and why its popularity and production are increasing in an era when most Britons feel more threatened by crime and disorder than at any other time. It's her career in her long life "if, as we are likely to James, "detective fiction flourishes best in the most difficult of times," as it did in the grim years between the wars, when people want to feel that, however intractable our problems, human ingenuity and courage can solve them. "We may well be at the beginning of a new golden age." ■

FINALLY, A BOOK ABOUT...HOW WE CAN READ
writing, and its flip-side reading, are equally the core of human civilization. That makes us one better than most, as we have the ability to read. In our private moments, part of the brain's temporal lobes evolved to respond to specific visual stimuli—a face, for instance. In humans that area became what Dehaene calls the "letterbox," allowing us to process incoming written words within tenths of a second.

Who says all is fair in love and war?



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EMILY BLUNT in *The Young Victoria*. Jean-Marc Vallée's previous film was about another teenager at odds with a dysfunctional family

A Quebec Queen Victoria: C.R.A.Z.Y.

What happens when an indépendantiste is asked to direct a story about British royalty?

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON • It's hard to imagine a less likely candidate to direct an adoring costume drama about British royalty: Quebec filmmaker Jean-Marc Vallée is best known for writing and directing *C.R.A.Z.Y.* (2005), a movie drenched with rock 'n' roll about a working-class teenager discovering his homosexuality in a rough-and-tumble neighborhood of East End Montreal. Until recently, Vallée's only concrete notion of sovereignty lay in the domain of Quebec independence, which he'd report, calling himself "a self-independent." But an odd couple of producers—Martin Scorsese and British producer the Duchess of York—recruited him to direct *The Young Queen Victoria*, a coming-of-age story about the wild son who became England's longest-reigning monarch. And he has pulled it off with remarkable grace.

Scorsese discovered *C.R.A.Z.Y.* through his producing partner, Graham King (*The Godfather*), who says he felt it was "Scorsese-ish," and Scorsese agreed. "They didn't consider my opinion or my nationality," Vallée told Maclean's last week. "They just said, 'Okay, we love this film. We feel like you could do something classic but at the same time give it a modern edge.'" Speaking by phone from an airport lounge—on route to Paris to shoot a TV insurance ad with Charlotte Rampling—the 46-year-old director said he'd been wading through scripts for a year and a half before hitting upon *The Young Victoria*, which was produced by Oscar-winning screen writer Julian Fellowes (*Golden Girl*).

"It was a challenge for me, and that's why I wanted to make it," Vallée explains. "It's so much out of my world. I wasn't attracted by the royal family. But once I had to make a film in them, I became curious to learn about

that world and be faithful to what they are. We don't have this in Quebec, and it's respectful tradition and rituals."

With Emily Blunt heading a distinguished roster of British actors, *The Young Victoria* illuminates a little-known chapter in the life of a queen who tends to be portrayed as a black-dressed dowager in perpetual mourning—her husband, Prince Albert, died of typhoid at 41. The story unfolds as a tender, awkward romance between Victoria (Blunt) and Albert (Rupert Friend) as she prepares to inherit the throne from her ailing uncle, the awkward King William IV (Jim Broadbent). As combining opportunities for her (Scorsese, including a mother-of-the-deep-sea *Mermaids* *Richardson*), the royal teen finds as ally in Lord Melbourne, the prime minister (Paul Bettany). And by her coronation, at 18, she's begun to carve out her independence as a showgirl—so the point is that Albert, who remains her next year, comes to resent his ineffectuality. With pre-Renaissance language, Vallée lets her throw herself into marriage, reimagining the palace staff.

As a fable about a teenager at odds with a dysfunctional family, *The Young Victoria* is not so removed from Vallée's previous film, suit might mean. "Thematically, it's similar," he says, "but it's a completely different culture, class, period and setting." *C.R.A.Z.Y.* has

its own visual splendor, one that's psychic debt rather than political. And it's not just pricing the film around a choir with Scorsese. Vallée shares the American director's flair for staging, dreamily pageantary to classic rock songs, notably by the Rolling Stones.

For Vallée, Vallée didn't go as far as Sella Coppola, who used contemporary pop to score *Marathon*. But he did play such music on the set to get his actors in the mood as they lined in various English castles and palaces. He also gave his stars pop songs to inform their roles, including Frank Sinatra's *The Room* for Lord Bettany's Melbourne and Cat Stevens's *Don't Stop Believin'* for Victoria. Yet Vallée insists he was a stickler for period detail—even if he did take poetic license in having Albert take a bubble to save Victoria from an assassination attempt. "Bottom line, this film is a romance," he says. "It didn't happen that way, but Albert stood up to face of her and was ready to take the bullet."

Vallée says he's been transformed by his brush with royalty. "I was never a huge Quebecer who wears the monarchy," he says. "I wasn't an Anglo-brother. It's like I didn't care. Now I can say I have respect for the establishment they represent, even though they're born and live in palaces." So he he'd had no flak from Quebec, where he's still beloved as the man who made *C.R.A.Z.Y.* Meanwhile, though he can't divulge details, he says he's just struck a major directing deal with Hollywood—and that's where the real story lies. ■



WE'RE STALKING • MICHAEL PHELPS

Phelps has a weakness for female swimmers. Once linked to Nicole Johnson, the Miss California USA runner-up in 2005, it was recently reported he broke up with her over a winter—Camey Presner, the combative 2009 Miss California USA. "Camey started bragging about it while he was still with Nicole," a friend said. This was his messy night now. His work is, too. After two years at America's state swimmer of the year, Phelps lost out to Ryan Lochte.

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WIVES LEFT at home would try to top each other's stories: "I had my first baby when my husband was deployed and it was at Christmas"

What military wives need to know

Don't talk about how 'wasted' you got when he calls home. And never mail risqué photos.

BY JULIA MCINNES • My best advice? Never, and I mean never, talk about your marriage with another man," writes the wife of a U.S. marine who fought in Iraq. "You may need to let off steam but it's best to go to the other wives, your chaplain or your therapist. Mom LAVE to make it better for lonely military wives," writes Mollie Gross in *Confessions of a Military Wife*, a new tell-all book that's packed with advice for other military wives, culled from the author's experience living at Camp Pendleton in California. "Even if you do not have feelings for that man, he will develop feelings for you."

In a recent phone interview with *Weekend Update*, Gross describes military life for even as soon as you get back into the house—most women don't work and are full-time housewives, raising kids. "I did notice a lot of the wives drinking on a daily basis. It shocked me. I encourage women to ask themselves, what can I learn while my husband is away?" She suggests learning to sew or learning French or taking a cooking class. When her own husband, Jon, was deployed, Gross honed her skills as a stand-up comedian, which is her current career in Los Angeles now that he's back.

When's husband is away, a wife has no idea when he'll get a chance to call home, says Gross. It might be once over the course of the deployment. I might be never. It might be in the middle of the night. "You have to be successful. You don't know what their day has been like. You can't be, 'Oh, we're past pumping up! We're wasted!' I don't know about Canadians but Americans love their alcohol." On the rare times when Jon called from Iraq, Gross says she never knew if someone had tried to tell him earlier that morning, "and that's why they said, 'Hey, you had

close call. Why don't you take some leave for yourself? Call your wife? You have to put yourself aside, and no matter what you're feeling when he calls, you have to be open." In the book, she advises, "I'm not saying you should hide things from him but you need to think before you speak. Some of my more experienced girlfriends suggested keeping a list not to the bedroom phone," so you're not caught off guard when the phone rings.

Gross had heard stories from "veterans" wives about rampant amounts of porn on deployment, she writes. "This did not work well with me. However, I knew that seven months would be a long time to go without mental releases. I decided to take matters into my own hands." Gross hired a female professional photographer to take "boudoir" photos of her. She posed in a red bra and panties in front of the American flag. But "word to the wise," she warns. "If you do boudoir photos for your man, because you have the photos before he leaves. Do not mail them. Remember packages can be searched and confiscated. Unless you want to be a sex pup for the entire battalion, hide them in a photo album you give him before he leaves."

Holidays like Christmas, and romantic days like Valentine's and anniversaries, can be "irritating," writes Gross. "It can be easy to feel sorry for yourself." To fight pity, Gross

says the wives played the "One Up Game"—a game of "bragging about all the things we had to do without our men." "One wife would begin with, 'Well, my husband has missed every Valentine's Day and wedding on either side for the first three years of our marriage.' Her comment is an invitation to another wife to challenge her suffering. The next play problems. 'I had my first baby when my husband was deployed and it was at Christmas.' Remember no sympathy is awarded in the game. This is a competition for bragging rights, not compassion."

As the fighting in Iraq increased, writes Gross, she and other military wives found it more and more difficult to leave the base and go into town. Typically when a female civilian learned that Gross's husband was a marine, the civilian would say, "Oh Lord! Well, he isn't fighting, is he?" "Yes, he's, actually, he's in the infantry," Gross would explain. Then the civilian would want to cry and reach out to Gross for a hug. Gross never said anything but words like "Thank you," "Gee, lady, I haven't been laid in three months and you need a hug!" Then there were the complete strangers who "would think once I was married to a deployed marine I would want to know their political opinions." Gross's advice to civilians: "Ignore your opinions at the polls, not in my face. And please don't drink you can say anything you want as long as you put out with it. I support our troops! Stay right there. Nobody wants to hear what you think!"



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MOST IMPROVED RENEE ZELLWEGER

She's been associated with her lovely looks Bridget Jones, charming, happy, always and all "I'm not single, I'm busy. That's my line," she once said. How things have changed. Zellweger's been spotted in Vancouver with a new beau. The *Man of Steel* star Bradley Cooper, who's shooting a remake of *The A-Team* film. Rumors suggest he'll pay the question soon. But Zellweger hasn't admitted Bradley Jones, the third instalment is expected in 2011.

The whole 'I'm off wheat' thing

The number of celiacs has increased fourfold. Then there are all the newly gluten 'sensitive.'

WYAN KIMSTON—Glucose warfare was a recurring theme this year among health-care professionals, as they sought to protect their wallets from the latest round of GOP. Guyton Polrow crowed about his a-year diet of gluten-free "clematis" and BabyCakes, the fashionable veggie and gluten-free New York bakery that sells US\$30-a-gluten-free loafers. The View on host Elizabeth Hasselbeck also posted her book *The G-Free Diet: A Gluten-Free Survival Guide to Middle America*. And former *Playmate* Jenny McCarthy, who claims a gluten- and caffeine-free diet helped her recover from autism, thanked all the buff loafers she gave her on the cover of the *May* issue. So when you're besieged by "I don't eat gluten!" demands this holiday season, know you're not alone.

Their frustration, however, is Deceit's Daffie's Partner, which offers glutton and therefore, dessert, can relate. Customers regularly come in for some good, "I've got guests who don't eat where," she says. "As for me, I've had one afternoon under the sun, where I'm not eating, very kind of dehydrated, I hope. Some people say, 'gluten makes me sluggish and not eating it makes me feel so much better.'"

The spectrum of the who are "gluten free" is now not watered, it's difficult to sort where from (all) At one end are orphans afflicted with an autoimmune disorder that makes them highly allergic to the protein found in wheat, barley and rye—Western dermatitis. Their number has risen fourfold in the past 30 years, according to a Mayo Clinic study published in the July Gastroenterology, which claimed that for every diagnosed child, 10 suffer from it undiagnosed. Also on the spectrum are the so-called "sensitive," seen

berry Bessie Redd, a Tucson naturopathic doctor. "It can have a huge impact on quality of life, causing gas, bloating, and painful 'yuck' flavor," she says. She blames the uptick in high-gluten intake and processed foods, which decreases the production of digestive enzymes that break down gluten than in rarer creases used infrequently in the bowel. "This would lead to 12 to 15 hours a day, turning around—our bodies are not designed for it," she says. At the other extreme are "gluten-free" dabblers, among them Pelrow (who also serves up "yummy" recipes for people with arthritis and food allergies), and one woman who built 33.99 pounds off bread because she believes it's "good to digest."

Flavorful, as apples, unadorned food worlds in her book, manifesting it in the 99 per cent of the population that is not obese as a guide to weight loss, deater and better sleep, much to the chagrin of the U.S. White House Council. It also ticked off some other food-obsessed consumers that anyone on a "gluten free" diet will be dismissed as a fad diet, says Jim McInerney, executive director of the American Celiac Association. "They say, 'I have to do this, it's a food safety issue, it's a health issue, it's not a lifestyle issue.'" Gluten is so ingrained in the food chain that it's in everything from commercial waffles to instant nood. That makes eating healthier, says

McArthur: Winesap/rose can be "glutinous" or not depending on whether it's made in the U.S. with white vinegar or in Canada with pink vinegar.

"It's easy to go hungry in a clinic," says Victoria Edgington, who opened GF Pharmacy in Cochrane, Alta., 15 months ago. So desperate are her customers for a good gluten-free bakery treat, they'll drive from out of province: one woman drove 10 hours from Pentstemon B.C. for artisanal loaves. Little surprise that some gluten-free products, like Mitty's Organic Cereals, develop a cult following.

More frequently, though, "gluten free" is code for "taste free," yielding under-baked breads, drywall crackers and biskuits that smelt of regret. Simulating gluten's texture and flavour another than replacing the soon-to-be-dead Rosenberg is currently oversteering someone making gluten free french bread. The bachelors are "interesting," she says, "as long as they're associated with peanut butter."

The series is a duplicate of the first, meaning good because of gluten has no anti-“gluten-free” immune response. Whole Foods has a dedicated gluten-free bakery and is designing new stores with gluten-free aisles. General Mills introduced gluten-free Rice Krispies and gluten-free instant ramen under its Bojangles brand. Genetically modified gluten-free wheat is currently in development—as French bakers sob into the Seine. Which means there'll be plenty to dish out at the gluten-sensitive holiday table. ■

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TODAY'S SPECIAL: BACON-FLAVORED ENVELOPES

J & B's Foods has already made a name for itself, and become a million-dollar company by selling bacon-flavored salt, mayonnaise (Baconaise) and popcorn. Now the Seattle-based company is making past food and into paper products with you guessed it—bacon-flavored envelopes. According to the owners, "Mimnvelopes," which aren't made with real bacon are also kosher-certified. *Bacon? Shockingly positive.*

JOHN ESTACIO, one of three winners of the \$75,000 award, writes bright and beautiful music that is popular with orchestra musicians

Definitely not a one-night stand

The National Arts Centre Orchestra makes a huge commitment to three Canadian composers

BY PAUL MELLIS • There is a little too much of the one-night stand in Canadian orchestral music. An orchestra lists its eyes as a self-respecting wingman, one that leads to another, and soon enough the composer and orchestra are parting company after a quickie. What the National Arts Centre Orchestra is readying to do is settle down for an honest long-term relationship. Sure, it's with three composers at once, but what can we say, artists are weird.

This week in Ottawa, the NAC announced its second round of commitment awards for Canadian composers. The search is a big process—the NAC Award—for the national audition up for it, three composers have been awarded \$75,000 each to write three compositions, work with the orchestra for five years, and teach younger composers the artist's business. Music Institute. That total of money for the kind of commitment is rare. The three recipients are Peter Paul Kropowicki, 61, who teaches at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ont.; Sokolovic, 41, of Montreal; and John Eaton, 43, of Edmonton.

"We're hoping they'll be able to create really engaging work," said Christopher Deacon, the NAC's managing director. He noted the awards are aimed at mid-career composers who have already had a reputation but should, in theory, have their best work ahead. "We're not interested in creating more 12-minute Canadian pieces."

That's an inside joke. Canadian composers actually get their music performed fairly often, but rarely more than once or twice for a given piece, and almost never are they invited to write something more elaborate than a brief overture before the Chapin concert and the Berthier symphony.

But the NAC has already shown that these

commitments can bear fruit. In last year's round of NAC Award recipients included the Toronto composer Gary Kulesha. He wrote his opera, *Jumping Third Symphony* for the NACO, and it has since been embraced, deservedly, by orchestras in Halifax, Calgary, Rochester, Edmonton and elsewhere.

Deacon is disarmingly frank in admitting that the NAC, which is generously supported to serve as headquarters for the performing arts, hasn't been doing enough to promote Canadian music before a national and the composer world in 2008. "We've righted the ship a little bit," he said. "Our record in the last few years is more defensible."

Still, even among Canadians who subscribe to orchestra performances, few could name a Canadian composer or have one of their pieces. For many years, Canadian composers wrote very little that could reasonably be heard. It's perhaps significant that Deacon mentions Kulesha as the guy whose work the NACO's own musicians were asked to play. The Edmonton writer's music is bright and raw, almost populist. He is already the most frequently performed Canadian composer now writing.

"It's true, no one in Canada has written Gershwin's *Third Symphony*," Deacon said, naming a powerful piece by a Polish immigrant that has achieved a word-pop-culture status since it was used in the soundtrack for

Peter Weir's 1991 film *Fantasia*. "But I think it's like [Canadian literature]. Fifty years ago, people were saying, 'Cautia, so what?'"

To be credit, while hoping for whatever the music of equivalent of Morton Feldman's novel might be, the NAC isn't hiring a bunch of celebrity studio composers. Kropowicki, whose long CV stretches to the NAC's mid-career definition, features a dark, spiky aesthetic language, but his music has the force of conviction. Sokolovic has a typically established what the ear down with his evident talent, despite fruitful collaboration with Kurt Nuyens and the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal.

Both Kropowicki and Sokolovic moved to Canada in their 20s. Kropowicki from Cincinnati, Ohio; Sokolovic from the shared territory of Yugoslavia. "This is now our reality," Sokolovic said in an interview. "It shows how Canada is helping people to start a new life."

There was no formal jury for choosing the composers, but the highest hurdle they will face is the approval of Pinchas Zukerman, the NACO's music director, a Master and brother-in-law of ever there was one. People who think the conductor a hidebound "no" need to expand their perceptions of what he's doing. Deacon insists, while admitting that "Pinchas has been a very busy collaborator, or a picky collaborator. His attitude has been, 'Yes, but let's deal with people who are doing really important, significant stuff.' He not gives me that as their prospect!" ■



RIHANNA...HAS SOMETHING TO SAY

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A RECENT edition of Britain's *Daily Mail* reported that "one of the world's most famous children's toys has been given a makeover."

What signal does Barbie's burka send?

Women forbidden by law from feeling sunlight—hey, that's a positive message for young girls



MARK STEYN

The other day, George Jones passed on to his readers a characteristically shrewd observation gleaned from the late poet George Fitzhugh: "No one likes to think of himself as a coward," wrote Jones. "People prefer to be afraid." People prefer to be afraid they end up yielding to what the interests demand, not because it's safer or more convenient, but because it's the right thing. Successful governments persuade the terrified that if they do the terror's bidding, it's not because they're terrified but because they're socially concerned.

This is true. Scattering terror is exhaustful. It's easier to appease it, but, for the sake of your self-interest, you have to tell yourself you're appeasing it in the cause of some or other variant of "social justice." Obviously, it's unfortunate if "Canadian" get invested for plotting to murder the art stars and publishers of the *Doughnut* Muhammad cartoons, but that's all the more reason to be even more astoundingly aware of the various "transliterations" arising from the pervasive telepresence throughout Western society.

Yet this psychology also applies to broader challenges. By way of example, take a fluffy feature from a recent edition of Britain's *Daily Mail*. "It's Barbie is a burka," read the headline. Yes, as part of her 50th anniversary celebrations, "one of the world's most famous children's toys, Barbie, has been given a makeover." And, in an attractive photo above that, there's Barbie in "traditional Islamic dress," wearing full head-to-toe hennegreen and red burka. At last, "it's amazing how Barbie would have been a girl in a

burka there if it alone can tell from the letter box out of a school mailbox."

But Britain's biggest Barbie fan, Angela Killa, scoffed at "Empire of Barbie Barbie," she said. "I think this is a great idea. I think this is really important for girls, wherever they are from, they should have the opportunity to play with a Barbie that they feel represents them."

Well, Barbie is 50. And it is on us when Kate Cooper—aka, *Canada's* all-star champion network news anchor—lends her own, or being photographed all seductively doing the look-alike at the Christmas after party, there is perhaps something to be said for belatedly rehashing your 75 most plastic bust. Or as the Canadian *Waggle* columnist Catherine put it: "Geez, news that bitch Barbie has finally reverted." And there's no need for expensive accessories like heels or cars or a life," added Tim Blair of Sydney's *Daily Telegraph*, "because Barbie is a girl isn't allowed to be any, but have unless accompanied by a male relative (Muhammad, but especially)."

Muhammad? I'm not so sure about that. Given the long time ransomed, Killa'll be lucky not to find herself crushed under one of those walls the Taliban put up for their notorious rehabilitation program. You'll be glad to know the dolls are anatomically accurate: Barbie has no chom, and, just like Muhammad Asia on the morning of Sept. 11, Killa's genital area is fully depicted.

But we cannot spend ages in the minutiae. The other day, I was teaching, as one does, a German class, and, for Leticia Dorense. It began with a naïf woman—his

blurred and soft-focus, her eyes closed as she had her hair in a towel and everything else in nothing at all, and there were definite glimpses of shapely bottom, the swell of her bosom and whatnot. All very Communal. She applies her lipstick, snuggles into her second stockings, slips into her slippers, and then—with one final toss of her glossy hair—pulls out her burka and steps out the door. Tag line: "Seasons for Derrero. Everywhere."

Why clever? The agency is *Glow of Berlin*. Might be there in mind? The superficial cool and the G. Henry catchphrase at the end seem less coming-age rite-of-the-adult than and desperate wishful thinking. For one thing, if the comely young lady were only a

At least I'm assuming it was Barbie. It could have been G.I. Joe for all one can tell.

believer as opposed to a jobbing utilitarian, her underdeveloped glow would earn her death drum, if she were lucky, and, if she weren't, actual death.

Still, Barbie Barbie and Fatima's Secret are rarer and peripheral. What about the so-called most powerful women in the world? "The U.S. government has gone to great lengths to protect the rights of women and girls to wear the hijab, and to punish those who would deny it," President Obama told his audience in Cairo earlier this year. "I reject the view of some in the West that a woman who chooses to cover her face is somehow less equal."

My ah, yes, it's a terrific lie, coverings, isn't it? It's true that there have been occasional frictions over, say, the refusal of Muslim women to reveal their faces for their driver's

licenses. Fatima's Secret, for example, said the state of Florida over that "right." But the real issue in the Western world is "the rights of women and girls" not "to wear the hijab." A couple of weeks ago in Arizona, a young woman called Noor Almhadi was fatally run over by her father in his Jeep Cherokee for becoming "too Westernized." If there were a Matthew Shepard-style gay tradition every few months, liberal culture wars would be going human about the "tolerance of hate" in America, but you can run over your daughter, decapitate your wife, drown three teenage girls and a polygamist spouse (so the nearly the most lurid recent examples of North American "honor killings"), and nobody cares. Certainly, there's no danger of Barbie's owner not standing up for the likes of poor Miss Almhadi or the refusal of Alvin Aroon. When a cynic is told his hair colors, as opposed to his century's imaginary epidemic, the president of the United States has smaller cause than I.

If you could see the Greater Chicago *Levee of the Islamic* subway, you may have noticed that the poster girl for the latest "social justice" campaign is a Muslim woman. "Drop Fees for a Poverty-Free Ontario" is the drop cry, and, next to it is a hijab-clad lady speaking up and speaking out. It's wonderful to do with the cost of post-secondary education, which, like everything else in Canada, is supposed to be "free." The image is a curiously chosen as an emblem for educational access: after all, one of the most easily discernible features of societies that adopt Islamic dress is how ignorant they are. In Afghanistan under the Taliban, girls were forbidden by law to attend school—or, a not far-removed lady a decade on Ontario's "post-secondary" education, but kindergarten and Grade 1. In Pakistan, 66 per cent of women are illiterate. According to the UN's 2005 Arab Development Report, half of all women in the Arab world cannot read. And even in Canada, the ability of the woman on the subway poster to access that

post-secondary education depends not on the "veil" but on her father or, if she's already been married off to her 16-year-old cousin back in Murpur, her husband. The *Selkirk* was an Internet meme: Kate McKinnon summed up the poster that "tolerance of women—it's the new normal."

"Traditional Islamic dress" is a term "traditional." It's to any claimed Muslim women who attended university in the fifth, sixth, or seventh century when they assumed history was moving their way and a covered woman was mainly a local variant of the Russian babushka, something odd and selected you saw at upcountry villages. Now you're in the heart of the metropolitan—and I don't mean Beirut or Abu Dhabi, but much like Paris and London. It's very strange to be able to walk around, say, Zaria, a Muslim town of the low "mezzanine" Abu Dhabi Al-Zarqa, and look 60 per cent of the women in the eye, and even be regarded with a friendly smile every so often, and then to fly on to London and be confronted by one masked face after another while swilling down Whitechapel Road in the East End. The burka, the niqab and the hijab are not fashion statements but explicitly political ones, and what they symbolize are Western consent to what is perceived.

That "Drop Fee" campaign would never dream of dropping up to poster girl in Jane Greaves, Diana Lee or any other unadorned citizen more in touch and gentle. Golly, that would send all sorts of disturbing signals to today's liberalized Britain, wouldn't it? As suggested a Barbie's Islamic academy? That, in Taliban-controlled Afghanistan, women were forbidden by law from ever looking sunlight on their faces? How, then, a positive message for young girls.

Philip Youngkin is a biographer who has widely reported as the author of the *Muslims* are coming to Britain like the "Yankee" most famous essay on the world currently taking shape is titled "The Return of Paganism." Don't worry, it's not the bad kind of

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6	THE ORIGINAL OF LAURA	00
7	LAST NIGHT IN TWENTY EIGHT	400
8	THE LADY	800
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10	THE GIRL WHO PLAYED WITH FIRE	1040

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teschuck



GO THAT STEAK on my plate here a good life. I wonder whether I see pigs in a blanket and I feel guilty, too, and then hungry.

What's a holiday without any guilt?

**I feel guilty that I paid too much for my
coffee. And I feel guilty I didn't pay enough.**



SCOTT
FESCHUK

Liked guilty? I feel guilty about
eating this steak. Did the
cow have a good life? Did it
experience a series of wacky
cow adventures? When the
meat came, I hope the farmer
grudged his beef and his
pork. "There, there," I
said, "can I pay extra to make this happen?"
I can see the other cow. "Organic, pasture
fed, lovingly conserved."

I feel guilty about meat in general. I see
pigs in these trucks on the highway and I feel
guilty I see pigs in a blanket and I feel guilty,
and then hungry, and then guilty for feeling
hungry. I see a plate of food and I feel guilty
that we didn't let the little baby calf grow up
so he could be a happy, healthy and slightly
tired, as nature intended.

I also feel guilty I didn't get the strip loin.
The strip loin never disappoints.

I feel guilty about disease change. I feel
guilty that I may not be taking it seriously
enough, in that I continue to selfishly exhale
with wild abandon. I also feel guilty that I
may be taking it too seriously—and that the
whole thing is such a bizarre prank derived by
scientists to get back at the gods who are
terrified that in high school, by asking
Humans socially unacceptable.

I feel guilty about my dishwasher tablets.
They're not the ones that are "green." They're
the ones that "actually work."

I feel guilty when I look at the news. Then
I feel guilty that I looked at the news for free
on the Internet. And now I feel guilty for
having had about a billion of the news when reality
it was rushed to bed.

I feel guilty when I pick up the mail and
see that charities have been reduced to just

ting to riches to come people like me into
opening their envelopes. Then I feel guilty
for jostling the riches.

I feel guilty about my beer. No Impact
Man went a whole year without using toilet
paper. Granted, but one has never agreed to
shut his hand, but due to joint issues. I try
to make sure by using TP that looks and
feels like plywood. I come very slightly less
guilty and slightly more concerned.

I feel guilty for thinking I'm doing something
better. You know the thing I mean.

I feel guilty about my leather shoes. They
used to be an animal. How would I feel if
someone made me into a shoe? I'd probably
feel guilty that I wasn't more ethical.

I feel guilty about eating that whole pig
not because it was bad for me, but because
nobody else got any. And I think they would
sense, too. That's certainly the impression I
got as they were watching me eat it.

I feel guilty about my sexual performance
as a younger man. With the benefit of hindsight,
I see now that—from a purely anatomical
perspective—those areas could never
have worked. Sorry.

I feel guilty about Cuba Gooding Jr. because
Don't get me wrong. I had no input into the
choices he made after winning the Oscar, but
I can't shake the feeling that's something
I could have done. Perhaps a well-timed letter
Or a Molotov cocktail hurled into the sea of
Daddy Day Camp.

I feel guilty that I'm not on Facebook.
Everyone is on Facebook and they spend all
day planning awesome make-out parties (I
assume).

I feel guilty about buying that issue of
The Economist and not reading it. Buying it
made me feel smart, but the prospect of

reading 1,500 words on Alibab made me
feel sleepy.

I feel guilty about taking my kids to McDonald's.
The food is loaded with ash and fat.
Plus we usually skip in the drive-through for
a good 10 minutes. Between the kids and the
car, that's a lot of emissions.

I feel guilty when I hang up the phone on
information. I know they're just trying to
do their job. That's why it helps a little. I
consider telling them that's why it's not my job.

I feel guilty that the drivers on the road don't
take five hours to cook or make a gourmet
meal mixed without being exposed to
ferocious, herbivorous or local lions.

I feel guilty about my coffee. I feel guilty
that I may have paid too much for it. And I
feel guilty that I might not have paid enough
for it. Who is the real? Did the farmer really
get a fair deal? Does anyone have the horse
number of Joan Valdez so I can get some
closure on that?

I feel guilty about writing all those jokes
about Kiriin Alay being fat. Give me the
opportunity to make amends for all those
jokes about Kiriin Alay being fat and I'll be
on it like Santa Claus on a Malibu.

I feel guilty for not doing enough to save
the whales, the oceans, the polar bears,
the polar ice caps, the film version of The Polar
Express, the penguins, the orphans, the orphan
penguins, the rein forest, the other rein forest,
the children, the Kiriin Mars, the earth,
the wilderness, the vinyl LP, the queen, and
the last dance for Ben E. King.

But most of the time, I feel guilty about
feeling so guilty. The problem is that it's so
easy to feel that way these days. And I always
do what's easy.

I feel guilty about this. #

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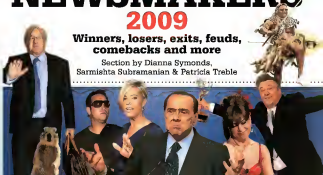
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NEWSMAKERS 2009

Winners, losers, exits, feuds, comebacks and more

Section by Dianna Symonds,
Sarmishta Subramanian & Patricia Treble



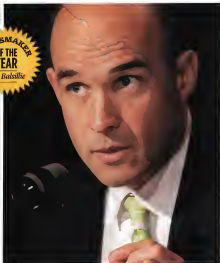
THE CONTENDER

With all the insider-gobbling legal jousting involved in Jim Balsillie's bid to buy the NHL's Phoenix Coyotes and move the team to Canada, it was easy to forget that this was merely a side project for the billionaire from Waterloo, Ont. Balsillie's day job, after all, is running what is arguably the most successful and important high-tech company ever to emerge in Canada, Research In Motion.

That Balsillie found the time to try and crack the hockey code at NHL owners by placing the Coyotes from bankruptcy protection—and attempting to bring a seventh NHL team to Canada—was a sure but welcome display of gritty determination. The headstrong Balsillie was eventually rejected by the NHL, but to millions of Canadian hockey fans who feel the league shrankened them when it sought to spread the game south of the border, he achieved near godlike status. Or the closest thing to it in this hockey-mad country.

Still, Balsillie's hockey sump coincided with a tumultuous time at RIM. Competition against IBM's BlackBerry smart phones from the likes of Apple's iPhone and Google's Android phones has reared up. (Apple, which has beaten the market for more than three years, is on pace to match RIM's sales by 2012, according to a recent report by Gartner.) RIM's stock price has been sagging, prompting the company to announce it will buy back US\$2.2 billion worth of shares in a show of confidence. Analysts are wondering if the company's days of market dominance are numbered. Balsillie showed a lot of determination fighting for a hockey team. He's more than likely to show plenty more as he fights to keep RIM at the top of its game.

There are signs he's taking



some of that hockey fight over the cellphone business. Last month, he flew to the San Francisco area—his rival's home turf—for a developers' conference to promote RIM's lineup. Asked by a reporter if the company is now caught playing some hardball, he went on the offensive: "We changed the world and up in my view nobody ever, ever, ever has even possibly declared that sense of possibility—and you know that is a catch-up! I'm shocked!"

Some industry watchers have suggested RIM would make a

good takeover target for a company like Microsoft. That would seem unlikely, and something Balsillie and co-CEO Mike Lazaridis would fight tooth and nail. Both have always resisted following the corporate route for Canadian high-tech firms, selling to a bigger American company or shipping off to Silicon Valley. RIM, in fact, continues to almost single-handedly prop up the tech industry here. "Why are they here and devoting time to making Canada successful?" asks Ken Coates, a professor at the University of Waterloo. "It's not for

profit. Both are "entrepreneurial nationalists," he says. People might disagree with Balsillie's methods at times. His dreams of buying an NHL hockey team have failed and may be finished once and for all. His company is facing an industry that recently has become so competitive as any pro sports league. And yet, through it all, there's no denying that Balsillie has arranged this year as the most of broads: a business superstar championing the Canadian cause. **B**

—Caleb Carrington



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**NEWSMAKER
OF THE
YEAR**
Angela Merkel

INVISIBLE WOMAN

The **bee** quietly buzzed into the past four years as Germany's first female chancellier and as the first to lead from the former Communist East. She's the "most powerful woman in the world" according to Forbes and, in her slow, plotting way, has emerged as the de facto leader of the European Union.

Outside of Germany, however, there's been scant interest in Angela Merkel, the earnest, apple-cheeked 55-year-old leader of the once-right Christian Democratic Union (CDU)—but for when she brushed off former president Bush's first boy nink nink at the 2006 G8 Summit or showed off impressive dexterity in Norway in 2006, Merkel's "Miracle of Miss Deutschland" crowned the Berlin tabloid *Daily Mail*.

Her re-election to another four-year term in September barely

registered in North America, which tends to think of Europe's most populous country and largest economy in terms of BMW, not CDU. For more info is spilled on beleaguered male EU leaders (Britain's Gordon Brown, whose Labour Party is slowly consuming hushhush, French President Nicolas Sarkozy, with his daughter and ADD during from near to steady) 16th's second-prize PM, White House.

The effective Merkel, who spends her leisure time hiking in the Alps and attending the Bay reitig-again festival, is gleefully dull in contrast. Her husband, chemistry professor Joachim Sauer, is as publicly shy as his known in Germany as the "Phantom of the Opera." She faded her hair to a "Chino," citing her "zero charisma, zero glamour, beige jeansuits, and a spouse

who rarely appears in public."

Clearly it's winning formula for the female politician: at last Merkel is having her breakout moment, to judge from the thunderous standing ovations that greeted her address to a joint meeting of the U.S. Congress in November. She pressed for an agreement on global warming and stressed the need to break down even more walls, a reference to the 20th anniversary of the Berlin Wall's fall that again put her in the international spotlight. Days later, she became the first German leader to co-sponsor Annular Day on French soil. Standing beside Sarkozy at the Arc de Triomphe, she expressed her intense conviction in a confessional speech that was classic Merkel: "When there is an agreement between us, everybody wins," she said. "When we

are united, everybody wins."

Merkel's sudden star turn is the most recent in a year that has seen older women reveal unexpected "wow" factor to a surprised audience. Consider Susan Boyle, whose talent was greeted with the shock one would rightfully associate with the spectacle of a hip-hop act. The 28-year-old German singer pulled back the curtain at X Factor to show the brilliant machine of a 10th-grade machine operator director, the 68-year-old Genevieve Cobblestone, who's also a director, the 68-year-old Genevieve Cobblestone, who's also a director, the 68-year-old Genevieve Cobblestone, who's also a director.

But it is a year that saw invisible women take the spotlight, no one there more than Merkel, whose personal history mirrors national aspirations.

Born in Wismar, Germany, she was raised in the country's East. She knew a deprivation that went beyond privilege due to her father's position as a Lutheran pastor. The family had two cars—owned of in a place where people could not decide for one—and their library was stocked with Western books, banned to read East German. A brilliant student, she studied physics at the University of Leipzig, finishing her education as a cocked veteran. In 1977, she married fellow physicist Ulrich Merkel (she divorced him in 1982 and married Sauer in 1984). After earning a Ph.D. in 1978, she took a job as a quantum chemist in East Berlin.

Merkel's political life began quietly, swept up in Germany's building democracy movement, she joined the CDU in 1990, two months before Germany's reunification. Merkel rose in the ranks quietly but steadily, mentored by newly elected chancellor Helmut Kohl, who referred to her as "the girl" and youth minister in 1994 and environment minister in 1994. When a clash first scandalized the party in 1999, Merkel alone had the courage to call Kohl to quit. The next year, she succeeded him as the CDU's first female leader.

In 2005 she emerged as a champion of an anti-capitalist election that pitted a fractious coalition between the CDU, major party, the Christian Social Union, and the center-left Social Democrats. Merkel kept it together, bending to the left when required: she dashed free-market reforms, imposed a minimum wage in some sectors and introduced a huge fiscal stimulus. She also pulled the country out of recession with a stringent economic program she compared to that of a "Swedish housewife."

Merkel's politics of efficiency have proven efficacious. "What, and when, don't Angela Merkel stand for?" the *Daily Mirror* Zetland asked in an analysis of her "openness" character during the 2009 election. "Nobody knows. And that is the secret to her success."

Even his recent praise of Germany as "the conscience for an increasingly strong Europe" didn't diminish the word she's in still anniversary to control the U.S. it was shared in its interests through international institutions.

On the world stage, Merkel has racked up an impressive series of policy coups, among them a hard-fought compromise on the EU budget in 2006 and a climate deal that helped forge a new global warming pact. Germany itself, seen as a moderating influence in the ongoing experiment of the EU, she's also one of its chief architects, having negotiated key European bloc reform treaties. New EU President Herman Van Rompuy will find it difficult to do anything that contradicts her wishes.

One constituency that has failed to warm to Merkel in Germany, however, is women. Frustrated by her avoidance of

"women's issues" in a *Washington Post* interview, Merkel admitted the pay gap between men and women is "irreversible" but ruled out any intervention. "I don't want to see women who sit less than their male colleagues for the same work as me to her boss self-confidently and say something has no change," she said. "We politicians will be up to the point."

But she did make a clear bid to appeal to female voters during the last election by joking about her dandy image in a TV ad. "I still learn something new every day," she said. "Like how important a hairstyle can be," a reference to updating her severe bowl cut to a softer, blonder cut. For the progress, Merkel is willing to do whatever she deems necessary. Just don't wait for the fact: the world's most powerful woman would've won the race in 2009. **W**

—Anne Kingston

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LOST BOY, FOREVER

Even more startling than the news of his death was its impact. Not once has a celebrity's sudden passing sent such a profound and lasting shock wave around the world. Michael Jackson's career had been in the children's air over a decade. His reputation also earned by elegance of child molestation, his face ravaged by cosmetic surgery, his body writhed on guardrails, his fingers in shards. Although his fans had remained fiercely loyal, snapping up tickets for a sold-out come-back tour that would never take place, for much of the world the king of Pop had become a sad shade—a barely pale shadow of the man child who once once walked into our hearts. But after Jackson's death on June 25, 2009, a remarkable mourning began to take place.

As the media became consumed with comparing his misery, parsing his significance and exploring the middle of his death, it soon became clear that celebrity death was shaping up to be an event on a par with the loss of Marilyn Monroe and Elvis Presley. In death, the moral lesson was instantly tipped: Jackson's iconic status would trump his human frailties. The man once accused of being a pedophile and a predator was now a saint, possibly a victim of murder, by lethal injection, perhaps even the target of a conspiracy. The disturbing pathology of Jackson's personality—the enigma of the boy who stepped on a man's body—only enriched the myth. At a showbiz proudly forever trying to reclaim the Neverland of his stolen childhood, he appeared tragic rebirth. Like Elton, Marilyn and Dims, here was another martyr to celebrity Jackson had always dressed in as such a martyr for eternity. And in the months that followed, pieces of him would be scattered off the religious relic, from his diamond-encrusted socks to the white glove he wore in the 1981 Motown TV special—



which is considered the "only goal" of *My microphone*.

As a black man who seemed lost in making his race and blurring his gender, Jackson's unique shuffling was racialized when he was white. In death it only amplified his racialized experience. Just as Elton Presley and Mick Jagger had plundered the moves and music of black & R to create their baroque empires of rock 'n' roll, Jackson merged black music with white pop, but from the other side. He seemed intent on transforming himself into an alien creature, as if the only ethnicity that really mattered to him was extraterrestrial. With *Thriller*, the monster video that broke racial barriers and virtually unbridled MTV, he tried on a ghastly identity that would follow him to the grave.

Jackson always danced himself a movie star, or rather a movie character. And he received some posthumous poetic justice with the release of *Thriller*, the movie that had topped the box office. The film, which has grossed more than \$300 million, puts a lie to the media speculation that he had been in the news, or that he no longer had the chops to pull it off. His ethereal film was still intact, and his quackish dance moves still dazzled, as if he had an otherworldly music flowed through his body like an electric current, an aching every move with some precise precision.

Had he lived to perform the tour, undoubtedly there would have been a concert movie. But it would have been a sticker per-

former. The rehearsal footage reveals a softer, more circus spirit Michael Jackson. Though the film is more biography than documentary, it offers a glimpse of vulnerability, and of the creative soul behind the Gillette arena of the persona. Jackson comes across as an adult, quietly focused and firmly in command. The movie lends credence to what Elizabeth Taylor once told Oprah Winfrey, that Jackson was "highly intelligent, shrewd, intuitive." There's a lovely scene in which Jackson is trying to hold himself back. "Don't make me sing out," he pleads. "I gotta save my voice." It's a moment freighted with sad irony in a movie that reduces a monstrous man by reminding us that he was only a man. **M**

—Brian D. Johnson



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NEWSMAKER
OF THE
YEAR
H1N1

PATIENT ZERO

It started with Edgar "Patient Zero" Hernandez, the five-year-old boy in rural Mexico who caught the first confirmed case of H1N1 last March. He came home from school with a fever and head aches. After a few days, and lots of consistency as a cross, Hernandez recovered. But for thousands of others worldwide, H1N1 has been fatal, including here in Canada, where casualties have included: 11-year-old Brandon Knight, the hockey player who died at his father's arms after a birth; 30-year-old Yvonne Warner, who loved figure skating and Mike Tyson; 38-year-old Keith Pagano, a popular chemistry prof with a growing family. "Burying your own kids is the most horrific thing for any human being," said Paul Hargreaves, Evan's dad. "There is no plan, no funeral, nothing to guide you."

In a matter of months, H1N1 has become the defining public health event of the decade, arguably causing more confusion, fear and hysteria than anything the world has seen since the 1918 Spanish flu. With one crucial difference: While our ancestors could only wait for a medical intervention to spare 50 million people from death, most coun-

tries today are, fortunately, armed with a preventative weapon: the pandemic flu shot. "The vaccine," says Gregory Hart of the World Health Organization, "is the single most important tool we have against influenza."

Having the tool and knowing how to best use it are separate matters, though. Along with vaccine hesitancy in the H1N1 vaccinees, the big dilemma this pandemic has been whether or not to actually get the shot. And, if so, when and how. Preparedness—or lack thereof—has been a running theme.

Health authorities, initially uncertain of this flu's virulence, feared for a deadly mist. Scientists scrambled to decode the virus, and then trying to get it into the lab so they could create a vaccine. There was debate about whether to administer one dose or two, and who should get immunized first. In Canada, federal and provincial governments revoked their pandemic plans, only to realize that even their detailed documents couldn't account for the logistical challenges of vaccinating 35 million people almost at once.

This flu also brought to the fore vaccine hesitancy about the

safety and efficacy of immunizations. As of late October, 53 per cent of Canadians didn't believe the H1N1 vaccine was safe for adults, 41 per cent said it wasn't safe for kids, according to a poll by the Strategic Counsel. People worry the shot will lead to an outbreak of swine flu, or that the government is manipulating population control or being swayed by money-hungry drug companies. This reluctance of "vaccine deniers" has many consequences. Nations of Islamic leader Laila Hemelstein has said: "The earth can't take 6.5 billion people. We just can't feed that many. So what are you going to do? We have to develop a vaccine that kills them and makes it look as though they died from some disease." Timely comparison, tells show host Bill Maher has tweeted, "If I get a vaccine flu shot or an idiot."

Comments like these have called vaccine supporters. The commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration posted a 1,276-word letter to physicians reminding them to explain the H1N1 shot to patients. In a new book called *Defendme*, author Michael Specter argues that the anti-vaccine movement

is based on political ranting and fear rather than science. The anti-vaccine movement is based on the fear of the worst case scenario that may result from getting the shot rather than the reality of how far we've come in treating diseases, including the flu. Discover magazine blogger Chris Mooney refers to vaccine deniers as "a late modern delusion" that people can indulge in because, ironically, they haven't been lulled off by mistakes, swine or pigs—which have been seemingly obliterated on most places by mass vaccination.

Even Canada's chief public officer of health, Dr. David Butler-Jones, has notably squared off with vaccine deniers, announcing that the odds of bad reactions to the H1N1 shot are less than 1 in 600,000 per cent, and that the benefits of getting it "far outweigh any theoretical risk." Of the 6.5 billion doses that had been administered across the country by mid-November, there were 36 serious adverse effects—making the pandemic shot safer than the seasonal flu vaccine. One elderly person died after getting immunized, but it's unclear if it was due to an underlying condition or the vaccine.

As of late November, H1N1 has killed 149 Canadians, and 4,100 others worldwide, though the WHO says that estimate is low because many places have stopped testing and reporting cases. More than half a billion people across 206 countries or territories have been sick, and the flu has struck an unlikely group: the young and healthy, as happened in 1968. Now experts suggest that a "third wave" of H1N1 may hit this winter (the first wave was last spring, the second this fall), and that it'll probably form future seasonal flus—all of which means this virus won't be out of the news soon.

Before H1N1, many in his village were sick. His father said to his mother, "We can't be afraid of what might or might not happen." But it's not surprising if you are. ■

—Cathy Gell



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The Best a Man Can Get



TIME ship that docked off at C. (clockwise from top left) Jacob Zuma; Gabourey Sidibe, Michelle Jean and Margot Abrahams discover this week's *American Style* model; Victoria's Secret models; Zuma's former wife, Leah and Corbin

Gabourey Sidibe

Most of Hollywood's leading ladies are in the film *Big Momma*, who stars in the film *Big Momma*. It's the opposite, especially when it comes to the film. But that might be the least remarkable thing about her. Sidibe has received massive praise for her latest performance as a serial abuse victim, a poor, illiterate woman who is inspired by her own father. She'll next star in *Shogun* in the Sky opposite Don Cheadle.

Real men on political site

On a trip to the Arctic, Governor General Michèle Jean sampled a bit of a freshly slaughtered seal, making headlines around the world. Now, everybody's doing it. In April a few months later, Stephen Harper dined on seal meat, offering a public rebuke to Europe's ban on Canadian seal products. Cabinet ministers followed suit, and it has been added to the menu of Parliament Hill's exclusive restaurant, along with more routine fare like beef tenderloin and salmon.

Madge Sukerman

In January, Sukerman, a single mom with two children, gave birth to octuplets, the second set in U.S. history. The story quickly progressed from her mother's tale to critical acclaim: the American Society of Reproductive Medicine elected her fertility doctor as its president. He transferred at least one embryo to the 33-year-old (quadlets would have amounted to one or two). Sukerman was soon a tabloid favorite.

It's a story that's so called "Octomom" would appear again in the fall. Sukerman's new book, *Octomom: A True Story*, is out now. She's a new show, though the dad of eight denied it.

Sei Lashon Tanel ship

After a decade-long emergency, on Sept. 10, the ship, owned by Canada as a terrorist organization, was defeated in that country's ship. In the crackdown that followed, some ships, Tanel said, including 76 who traveled to L.C. aboard a new down-cargo ship. Seeking refuge

status, most were kept in custody as a Vancouver-area detention center as officials attempted to send out on a return trip. Still, family members were reportedly released. "He's in Canada, so he's safe," one said of his brother.

Joseph Zuma

A goth-riff-turned-guerrilla leader, Jacob Zuma seemed an unlikely candidate for South Africa's top office: the leader of the African National Congress was reduced to some quarters for his lack of education, for breaking into song and dance while out campaigning and for his three wives. Largely thanks to his grassroots appeal, he was sworn in as president in May. Among his first inauguration, where he took at the feet of Nelson Mandela, Zuma had just one wife in one, which matched more than a bit of a song and dance back home.

Amenda Seyfrid

Following last year's *Mamma Mia!*, in which she appeared alongside Meryl Streep, the 25-year-old singer has shown off her remarkable range with two nearly different roles. In the dark comedy *Jennifer's Body* (scripted by Oscar winner Diablo Cody), Seyfrid plays a nerdy basketballer. And in Adam Sandler's erotic drama *Chloe*, set in Toronto, she played the wife role: a prostitute hired by a woman (Julianne Moore) to seduce her own husband (Liam Neeson). For those who prefer her lighter fare, *Mamma Mia 2* is on its way.

'Glee'

The high school musical comedy *Glee* is the hottest thing on TV, thanks in part to Gwyneth Paltrow, a *Calypso* singer, who is chosen as Patti LaBelle, a dreamy football player who can sing. He appears alongside the rest of the gang at McKinley High, making the fabulously off-the-beatling coach, Sue Sylvester, played with gusto by Jane Lynch. Once the rebels of *Glee* are back, they're back to Monty and his crew, are finally cool. ■

—Katy Larson

ENTRANCES

Victoria's Secret

No longer will underwear aficionados have to gaze longingly south of the border: Victoria's Secret, the lingerie chain synonymous with romance, glamour and Heidi Klum, is set to launch its first Canadian store in the new year. For those who can't wait, little sister store Victoria's Secret Pink, aimed at university-age girls, opened a few Canadian outlets this year.

Micro pigs

The most e-distant accessory in Hollywood's handling of the pig of choice—she's a tiny pig. Micro pigs start out as big as a turkey and grow to be about the size of a squirrel; they're destined sweet, nurtured, and they love to be

around people. David and Victoria Beckham have scooped up two, reportedly at a cost of over \$3,200 each. Harry Potter actor Rupert Grint has one, too.

Chinese curling team

Who'll win curling gold at Vancouver in 2010? China, which just began its curling program in 2009, could be a real contender. In March, the Chinese team defeated Sweden, Olympic champions in 2006, to win the Women's Curling Championship, making history: Observers are calling the People's Republic the new curling superpower.

Lottie the Otter

Eighty years after A.A. Milne's beloved books were published,

Winnie the Pooh has a new friend: Lottie the Otter, who appears in the first authorized Pooh sequel, *Return to the Hundred Acre Wood*. Author David Benedict describes Lottie as an outspoken otter who's a scold for eelgrass. Illustrated by Mark Burgess, who brought Paddington Bear to life, she's a graceful and rare female addition to Pooh's crew.

Joquien 'Shorty' Guzman

This year too an unusual addition to *Barbie* magazine's list of the world's wealthiest people: Alongside Bill Gates and Warren Buffett is Joquien "Shorty" Guzman, a Mexican drug lord. With an estimated net worth of US\$1.5 billion, Guzman beats the Rine-

ke court, one of the biggest suppliers of cocaine to the U.S. Mexican officials quickly slammed his inclusion as "deplorable."

Nova Scotia's first NDP government

Just's vote as the province got its first ever NDP government after a decade of Progressive Conservative rule. The NDP trounced the Tories, who were reduced to third party status. Don Leader Dwyer, Doner seemed surprised. "Who would believe that NDP would cover Nova Scotia?" he said after the win.

Arlo

Most over, Lucy's homed even more primitive than the film on a 3.2 million year old fossil a new

species has been discovered. Arlo, about 4 million years old, an adult female, she likely stood about four feet tall and weighed 300 lb. With a human's set of a thumb, Arlo could climb trees, yet walked upright on two legs.

Al Franken

Al Franken was once better known for his role as a political pundit on *Saturday Night Live*. This year, he left the limelight to become Minnesota's new Democratic senator. Dedicated the winner after a lengthy race and legal battle against the Republican rival, Franken was elected as a senator in Washington with another declaration: "This really got me to work, thank you."

Shawn A-Goat Aline

In Canada, roughly half the native population is under 25. Arlo, a hereditary chief of Vancouver Island's Ahousaht First Nations,

was a fitting choice to represent them. Elected national chief of the Assembly of First Nations in July, he was the youngest candidate at age 43 (and the only one whose campaign had a Twitter account). Arlo is not known to shy from a challenge, in his new role he promises he'll be "looking down down."

Qazilla

Canadian's ambivalence to the reptile was on show during the duels of *Comwell's* first official race, which was held by a controversial compromise to Daniel's. Still, Canada has Canadian roots: one of her ancestors was premier of Canada West. On a trip to Florida's Dinosaur Circle, built for the largest great-great-grandfather and the Prince Charles named one of the largest amounts of their trip, and was greeted with cries of, "We want the duels!" Comwell, in a five-foot-six, replied, "Oh, lordy."



sexual abuses rocking Barack Obama and singer and child abuse survivor Natalie Imbruglia drew tough criticism from the CRTC. Adams, *adviser*, *Bye Bye*

ward for best polka album. This vastly reduces the chances that Canada's polka king, Walter Ostański of St. Catharines, Ont., who has been nominated for 21 Grammys and won three, will ever be nominated again.

The Lockerbie bomber
Three Canadians were among the 270 victims of the 1988 Lockerbie bombing. In August the Scottish government agreed to repatriate the al-Badri Basset Ali al-Megrahi, the only man convicted in the terrorist act, on compassionate grounds. Back in Libya, he got a hero's welcome. "Terrorist-prone nation since we're still awaiting his final exit."

Karlheinz Schreiber

The former arms dealer and self-cryied governmental man of mystery avoided extradition from Canada for a decade. This is to the obvious horror of Brian Mulroney, who describes taking cash from Schroeder as "the second biggest mistake in life," the first being ever agreeing to meet him. There's no chance they'll bump into each other at the ATM these days—the Mounties escorted Schroeder to Germany in August.

Wednesday 2008

It was this film used to capture the image of the beautiful green-eyed African girl for National Geographic and the basis for the infamous Zapruder shot that caused the murder of presidential John F. Kennedy, sparkings for the vast conspiracy theories it could only be that Kadohane, introduced 74 years ago but almost ignored in June, was at once too real and too vivid. Singer Paul Simon recognized in its bright hues a genuine reality could not lose. "Make you think all the world's a sunny day," he sang. Digital photography, which offers a clearer, wider, led to the end of our colorful perception. ■

Eschscholzia alba

Despite protestations by some that pop is enmeshed in a vibrant musical form, the Grammy Awards have discontinued their

EXITS

'Guiding Light'
Go to the light, a voice said, and, after 73 years on the air, it did. Guiding Light, the longest-running scripted program in broadcast history, had declined to an average of just 2.2 million viewers an episode, making it the least watched of the remaining soaps. So CBS executives extingished the town of Springfield and its denizens—Kevs, Josh, Lance and all—forever.

Fausto Abdulali
Somed, drach or faly? It's always been hard to tell with Abdul. So when she announced she was leaving the judge's table on *American Idol*, the question became whether she was quitting or just fleeing.

handball. Fox ended the speculation by tapping Ellen DeGeneres. After a subsequent TV impersonation of Ellen—less straight up than a stringer imitation on drag—closed the deal.

Wayne Gretzky
A casualty of the Phoenix Coyotes' financial ill-fortune, Gretzky stepped down as coach in September, even so just Ed Snider and Gary Bettman contested for the team's future. Later, a dispute over millions in salary Gretzky says is still owed him caused some to wonder whether he'll miss the Hockey Hall of Fame induction of former teammates Brett Hull, Luc Robitaille and Steve Yzerman. About the next

Cresteded's course. "The game is bigger than any individual or any person," he said.

Rachelle Lefevre
Not by garlic or a stake in the heart, but by scheduling conflict, Montreal actress Rachelle Lefevre last summer found her self excommunicated from the role of creepy *Twilight* vampire Victoria in the second sequel.

View-Master scenic reels
Slipped into their plastic viewing
window, the classic fire-engine red
and white trigger to move
between images, the 3-D scene

real was the most bear doing to being there. The Grand Canyon threatened real vertigo, the glassy expanse of the Rockies aural hypothermia. But citing long-diminished sales, Fisher-Price has stopped making the sonic mule (it will continue with TV and music-related discs). Meaning our children will no longer gaze at the View-Master's unimaging verminade with the pack-washed man or red Man.

Oscar De La Hoya
Dubbed "the Golden Boy," he was a throwback to the classic Hollywood pugilist. A Mexican American raised in hardworking central L.A., De La Hoya promised his dying mother he'd win gold in the 1992 Olympics; he did, then went on to become one of the world's most successful pro boxers. Good looks and scrappiness made him widely popular, but he was no stranger here to Americans.

Hispanic population. After his last house in May before retirement at 65—he lost to Flynn many Frequent-De La Hoya approached his old enemy, Freddie Roach. “You were right, Freddie. I don’t have it anymore.”

'High School Musical' cast
Four years after its celebration debut in 2006, the cast of *High School Musical: The Disney from* class is at home in smile Salt Lake City, where it is filmed—has graduated, nevertheless. What is do? Replace Lisa, Vanessa and Ashley with a new crew of peer-perfect vocalists, who will also no doubt be outfitted with the *Avengers* Auto/Tune patch correction software. For *High School Musical 4: East Meets West* (which sounds more, but likely goes on further east than Minnesota).

Monthly bear allotments
For years. Median returns

enjoyed a beer-drinking package that could rarely only exist in the booze-fueled fantasy lives of Bob and Doug McKenzie. In a five-beer barometer, St. John's got six decent breweries a month, four in June, Malton said it was about the quota of complimentary beer it allows its retailers to supply monthly. Given in St. John's. Five years from now, when across Canada will get no beer at all. Current workers will see their allowance slashed to 50 dozen bottles a year. Union grievances and protests are expected to do that.

Radio-Canada's 'Bye Bye'
Once a very funny way for immigrants to call in the New Year, Radio-Canada's year-end television event had in recent years devolved into an offensive, unfunny caricature of Quebecois humour. Indeed, last year's review, which featured coast-

East pollen album
Despite presentations by some that pollen remains a vibrant musical form, the Grammy Awards have discontinued the

neal and two word. Singer Paul Simon recognized on its bright hues a promise reality could not keep. "Makes you think all the world's a sunny day," he sang (Digital)photography, which offers a starker reality, led to the end of its colourful optimism. ■

—Nicholas Kahan

personal data provided by users all over the world, in part due to a report issued by federal privacy commissioners earlier this fall blaming Facebook for violating Canadian privacy law. Among other things, it will make it clearer how to delete accounts and to choose what personal info is sent to third parties.

Bye-bye

Though released late last year, Beyoncé's video for single *Lady* (*Put a Ring on It*), ranked into being the secret heart of 2009. It was the one Kanye West hit should have won over Taylor Swift's *You Belong to Me*. It became the subject of countless YouTube hoaxes, creating the first dance craze of the 21st century. Creating it joined in January, Barack Obama flipped his hair in glorious *Rings* on February. With the grace of a ballerina, Beyoncé demonstrated her infinite self-possession.

Mosses Godbolt

In flowing golden robes and trademark sunglasses, flanked by seven "traditional kings of Africa," Godbolt arrived in Addis Ababa in February to assume the leadership of the African Union. His ascendancy was not without controversy: Godbolt wanted until 2009 to announce retirement and appeared to want the leadership merely to help propel Libya from the shadows of international isolation. Next stop... *Magpie*?

Alex Baldwin

Who said there are no second acts in American lives? Scott, meet Alex Baldwin, the leading man turned-off-theory theorist turned-on-the-voice man-and-a-half, whose return to *60 Minutes* was a comeback. That year he's earned an Emmy, starred alongside Marilyn Sotelo in *The Complicated* in a star cheating on a trophy wife with his aging ex, and was named co-host (with Steve Martin) of the 2010 Oscars. Alex, grab that winning streak and start emulating Schweddy Ball—now. ■

—Nicholas Kohler



ALEC BALDWIN



MUHAMMAD GADDAFI



DE PARRIS

MR. TURNAROUND

The most terrifying test on a roller coaster is always the one right at the front, and we've had a momentous charging jerk first, which is what the plunging, twisting turns of the financial crisis then.

Timothy Geithner, now, with the wild ride leveling out and stability returning to the economy, the man whose hair flies on both the left and right was calling a "winner" a few months ago in being credited with helping put the U.S. back on track. When Warren Buffett declared the financial panic over this month, he said that Geithner, with Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke, deserves "high marks" for how he handled the crisis.

Of all the predictions about the fate of the global economy made during the darkest hours of the financial crisis—"There will be blood," the ominous *Wall Street Journal* once said—few thought that 24 days later we'd be where we are today. America's economy is growing again, unemployment is slowing, and consumer confidence has rebounded from low as seen in half a century. Through a barrage of stimulus spending and tough measures that forced troubled banks and corporations to restructure, Geithner and his colleagues have given America some of its confidence back.

Not that you'll hear much about private life. These days, even when on vacation, his belongings, in fact, the only thing in his vacation suitcase is his cell phone. He's been Geithner's public persona. A lot of that has to do with his unique history. In his previous job as chair of the New York Federal Reserve, he oversaw much of the housing crisis that got *Wall Street* into trouble in the first place. For instance, while Geithner raised concerns about risk posed by the real-estate derivatives market, which ultimately magnified the crisis, he took few

steps to curb it. Then, when the credit crisis hit, he worked closely with the Bush administration to draft the response. He oversaw for JP Morgan to take over the troubled investment bank Bear Stearns, and was instrumental in the decision to let another firm, Lehman Brothers, fail. He also worked with his predecessor, former treasury secretary Hank Paulson, and Bernanke to convert the \$187 billion Toxic Asset Relief Program (TARP). The measure gave financial support to banks, insurance and credit card companies, as well as the lending arms of GM and Chrysler. It was a long

struggle to rescue the financial sector, but not doing enough to punish reckless Wall Street, which others suggested the efforts to rescue struggling companies, particularly GM and Chrysler, were punishing the U.S. toward socialism. After it was disclosed that AIG, recipient of a \$181 billion bailout, was planning to pay huge bonuses to its employees, Geithner became the target of anger for critics, who saw the need for criticism, without the half of American blaming him for the scandal.

Today, many still have faith about the recovery. U.S. dollar and the staggering debt Washington has piled on to buy this recovery. Yet, as economic indi-

cators show, some critics blame his plan to rescue the financial sector for not doing enough to punish reckless Wall Street, which others suggested the efforts to rescue struggling companies, particularly GM and Chrysler, were punishing the U.S. toward socialism. After it was disclosed that AIG, recipient of a \$181 billion bailout, was planning to pay huge bonuses to its employees, Geithner became the target of anger for critics, who saw the need for criticism, without the half of American blaming him for the scandal.

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U.S. TREASURY SECRETARY TIMOTHY GEITHNER

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U-TURNS

TD Bank recovers from free fall

After plans to impose a \$15 incentive fee for lines of credit sparked nationwide outrage, TD finally got the message. On top of scrapping the incentive charges, the bank pledged not to impose any new or increased fees on most personal clients year. At Toronto-Dominion bank, it seems the customer is right after all.

It's their party

The last thing sitting politicians need to worry about, says federal Tory party president Don Plett, is adding it on in riding-level nomination fights. After all, holding onto power in a minority government can be stressful. And so, despite raising the Liberals for the same policy, Conservative MPs will now, for the first time, be granted automatic nominations in the next election.



The natural

Women haven't gotten another reason to throw their parties at Tom Jones. The Sex Bomb singer, 69, has abandoned his signature dark brown hair in favour of a more natural look, a decision he concedes he should have made years ago. "Women love it," says the silver-haired singer, who has also vowed to give up plastic surgery.

Okay, Tories might be trouble

Breaking with past statements, the RCMP recently conceded

that Tories carry "the risk of death, particularly for security agencies and officials." Now when Tories are deployed, Ministers are advised to stay clear of the suspect's chest, lest the electricity trigger a cardiac arrest. Apparently, hitting someone with up to 50,000 volts of electricity isn't, in fact, being true.



Angelina's dress reveal

Consider it this year's most lit-er-al fashion event: In a bid for what her stylist called a "more Michaela" look, Angelina Jolie wore her Miss Asia gown back-wards to the Screen Actors Guild Awards. That the plunging neckline happened to highlight her toned, tattooed back was purely coincidental.

Make that a two-child policy

After three decades of imposing a severe one-child-only policy, China is reaching in a slow reveal a workforce shortage. To balance out Shanghai's aging population, men and women who are both only children are encouraged to go forth and multiply—twice.

That \$600-million heist

After a proposal to steal \$21,000 (\$600 million in total) to help out the families of all those killed during the Northern Ireland Troubles—including members of paramilitary groups—opened a boulevard that died when his defence exploded—died for him sake of the bereaved, Prince

Maxim Gordon Brezhnev's government rejected it.

Alberta: from riches to rags

Canada's oil-rich province expects to become the next oiling on Ottawa fire a headstart at the end of this fiscal year. During an unforeseen economic miracle, it will be the first time in more than 30 years that Alberta has asked for federal financial aid. Badly wounded by the stock market crash and plummeting energy prices, the once rich province anticipates it will qualify for \$230 million in fiscal stabilization funds.

U.S. military coffins visible once again

Eighteen years after George H.W. Bush banned U.S. media from reporting on military coffins of men returning from combat, the veil of secrecy has been lifted. The new President provided the family doesn't protest, media can once again photograph the hushhanded of the country's war dead.



Voices see the good in Harry Potter

A year after changing author J.K. Rowling was creating a story where "whiteness is prepositional as a positive ideal," the Vatican's official newspaper appears to have warmed up to Harry Potter. In a *L'Osservatore Romano's* interview of Harry Potter and the Half-Blooded Prince, the sixth film adaptation of the best-selling series, the paper pro-

claimed, "there is a clear line of demarcation between good and evil."

Wikipedia closes ranks

The Web's biggest open knowledge bank isn't so open any more. As English language editors passed the three-million mark, Wikipedia began keeping closer watch of entries on living people, giving a group of invited editors the power to accept or reject revisions.



From reality TV to White House

Nitendra Cempowidhi is an open pains man who took Barack Obama's message of change to heart. Before joining his team, Cempowidhi, a Harvard grad, chose to put his other scars for word, appearing on the NBC reality show *Far Law Or Money* and joining in *Sherry*. His transformation prompted yet another shock face. Shortly after the became an assistant to deputy chief of staff, she was mentioned in bed with Joe Biden, Obama's 20-year-old speech writer who had previously been on his wedding.

West Bank wall, schools: it's time to let it be

The West Bank wall, which Israeli police proclaimed "wasn't a no-keep-out structure," isn't as necessary anymore. After years of criticism from the inner national community over the barrier, which runs in and around the West Bank separating the Palestinian territory from Israel, Yael Dukan, the head of Israel's security service, told a parliamentary committee that now there's "no need to finish" construction. ■

—Rachel Mandel



STEPHEN HARPER

STEALING THE SHOW

Since political earthquakes are slow night, Stephen Harper has only a few weeks left to resign from politics in disgrace before the New Year. Better hurry!

Or perhaps you don't need the spate of controversy at the beginning of the year to the effect that Harper, having survived the Great Word Coalition Crisis of Late 2008 only by strong-army Governor General Michèle Jeanneau presiding Parliament, was so badly wounded he would soon be forced to walk away onto the retired political rubber-chicken cream.

Opponents the nation of these predictions, who perch at certain Toronto newspapers, will no doubt be joined as Harper heads into 2010 in uncommitted control of his party, with the Liberals struggling to get off the ropes and furnishing hints of

Conservative growth in Quebec and in a few carefully selected ethnic communities.

Quit? Harper has a better shot than ever at the parliamentary minority that has eluded him until now. So how'd that happen?

Back in January the pre-election of a hard Harper returned didn't seem particularly unusual. With Harper's mind dominated, the 2008 election gave him a strengthened minority and left Liberal Stephen Duce's leadership internally compromised. Somehow Harper managed to provide an opposition united front that threatened to compel into a coalition government. He turned that threat only to do what he has always done when he's in a bind: lash out, this time against Brian Mulroney, whose Conservative party would be elected because the Liberal defeat.

Heave economy sparked by Harper's PMO spokesmen.

What saved him, Harper's last, was the economic recession and the climate of uncertainty it provided. Can adjust were worried, and to the moment of Liberalism I'm generalizing themselves for being the budget deficit more than a decade ago, much of Canada's confidence on matters of economic management has transferred to the Conservatives.

Michael Ignatieff, the new Liberal leader, as announced he would force Harper to report periodically on the status of the much-billed dollar count to cost cash dump known as the "fiscal transfer," Harper, barely able to believe the lack, barely obliged. As much the Conservative "information" campaign has been hard to the point of being fully questionable, with Conservative MPs hand-

ing out jambo checks, some leaving the Conservative party logo, to municipal dignitaries.

The Conservatives are named by my ethical deities their behaviour that sparked. They are awarded with the results. From June to September, according to a senior Conservative source, public awareness that the Conservatives have "an action plan" for dealing with the global economic crisis was up from 30 to 45 per cent. One vote in two is an unusually high level of public awareness for any party in government. And the Conservatives have only the Liberals to thank for making them launch the public awareness program.

"What's worth remembering is that most of our progress this year has been through self-inflicted Liberal damage," the senior Conservative said. "There haven't been a lot of Stephen Harper criticism traps, except maybe the gun registry—a parliamentary vote on a Conservative prime minister's bill to diminish the registry for rifles and shotguns, which split the Liberals and the New Democratic Party cause—"and that was more about spurring the NDP than about the Liberals."

Paraphrase had seen come in mid-October, when the Conservative media picked up a story in *Shinichi-Lang*, a Black stronghold in eastern Quebec, confounding the impression that Harper's modest leadership in Quebec in 2008 might be the high water mark of his success there.

What we have learned about Harper in the past year should be dignifying to the Liberals. Each time we believe we've learned fully, support for the Conservatives has risen. Economic uncertainty (and the incumbents, not their rivals) And there are many more corners of the country where the Liberals are uncomfortable than where the Conservatives are. By October, Harper was making guest appearances on Ottawa news stages and badly needed change. He looks to keep surprising Canadians for a while yet. ■

—Paul Wells

From one average Canadian to another

POLITICAL



MICHELLE JEAN
THE PRINCIPAL

"I am the very model of a successful gov't employee." A little vague on her job—but she described herself as Canada's head of state in a speech in Paris. More glamorous than Canada. Looks more comfortable in uniform than Charles.



GEENA AGLUKKAQ
HEALTH AND LOVE EXTRA

"Hi, hi. There's extra room. But only sleeping bags." Working hard or hardly working? Thankfully MP Aglukkaq successfully avoided government disqualification. One question: How well would our hands keep us from getting pregnant?



WRAY DHILLON
WELCOME BACK

"You missed a spot: my mother's hair." Brampton MP took a headline the same time when carrying a young family home along. They were 11-month-olds. A get-out lawyer and guest on the afternoon but everyone gets dirty.



BRIAN MULRONEY
INTERNATIONAL STRUCK

"Yep, I've had a few..." Took money in legal-sized envelopes from Karlheinz Scherbar. The Ophelia inquiry report won't be released until next year but it's already clear what our biggest market was.



PETER MACKAY
PRESS ID

"I don't know, yet." Rapidly aging Jack Donaghy has arrived in a charity giggy match on Parliament Hill. Details: He's not yet 50. He's a producer. He's not yet 50. He's a producer. He's not yet 50. He's a producer.



STEVEN RICE
HALL MONITOR

"You're not an independent member." Parliamentary budget officer has the authority to actually question the government's 31 official predictions. Funding for the office gets chomped off. Now that's transparency.



PETER DINKOV
NO CREDIT, NO WORRIES

Popular former teacher returns to an exciting new challenge—being 100% from himself. First task: find a donor for the chemotherapy treatment. Second: teach the creature how to skate.



RAJNI JAFFER
DRIVER'S EDUCATION

"I'm 1 year, well as I am obliged to have done." Former Tory MP faces drug and impaired driving charges after being stopped in rural Ontario. Looking for a safe Alberta seat to the NDP now the second most embarrassing event in his life.



GORDON CAMPBELL
MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED

"She's biggest in the house." The minutes are ready. Some is filed high in Whistler. And Canada's athletes are warming up the World Cup event. All systems are go for the 2010 Vancouver Games. Let's all back in the golden glow.

So it's wild that you would? There, I've undone my collar button. —Glen Clark

YEARBOOK '09



STEPHEN HARPER
I GOT HIGH WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS

Robert Prince Minister surprises everyone by briefly supporting himself—a judge, too. Success dampened by fact that I took his number. Five years to find a tune he could carry.



DENIS CODERRE
YOU'RE IN LUCK, QUEBEC

"You're in luck, Quebec." Quebec's a Quebec point man looks back to keep a wall from melting a comical always. He's not yet 50. He's a producer. He's not yet 50. He's a producer.



GILLES DUCEPPE
I.O.U. \$247 billion to Dalton

"The only three years since you've gotten my CDP." Separation has been in the House for 19 years. But that's not as absurd as the 1990—which says it will never lose government—having election plans.



LINDA FREEMAN
I GOT HIGH WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS

Former Ontario First and Ontario's equator spent the afternoon talking. Thanks, I sent in the Senate. Nine more paintings in the upper chamber than in the Ottawa's gallery but how did they miss that?



GEORGE BRUMMERMAN
YOU'RE IN LUCK, QUEBEC

"You're in luck, Quebec." Ontario's only 100% Canadian minister. He's not yet 50. He's a producer. He's not yet 50. He's a producer.



DIANE ABLONCZY
I WANT, I THOUGHT I THOUGHT

"I want, I thought I thought." Minister of state for tourism called onto the 19th's court after giving Toronto's Prime candidate a \$400,000 stimulus grant. The project funded by Canada's Ontario's Action Plan.



MICHAEL IGNATIEFF
I WANT, I THOUGHT I THOUGHT

"I want, I thought I thought." Canada's new, Canada's new, you're the only Canadian politician who's not yet 50. He's a producer. He's not yet 50. He's a producer.



LISA RAITT
WE'RE IN LUCK, QUEBEC

"We're in luck, Quebec." Natural resources minister sits the bar 100 and low. And leaves briefing notes behind in a TV studio. Boss caught on tape behind aching cabinet colleague. Presides greatest queue ever.



PATRICIA STEDMAN
TIME TO GO

"Time to go." Tory senator (Sheepskin/Paper) dropped by his partners of not-so-welcome auditions in former job design experiences. Drinking on the job. Sexual harassment. Not in school.

—Jonathan Gathwaite

STYLING: KASSON CO. HAIR: JAMES ANDERSON. MAKEUP: JAMES ANDERSON. GROOMING: JAMES ANDERSON. GROOMING: JAMES ANDERSON.



Practice

1990 - Audi 100



Practice

1990 - Audi 100



Practice

1991 - Audi 100



Practice

1991 - Audi 100



Practice

1991 - Audi 100



Practice

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100

years of Audi
Vorsprung durch Technik



Perfect.

100 years in the making. The new Audi R8 V10 quattro.

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SHANEY SULLIVAN/ABC



LEONARDO DICAPRIO AND KATE WINSLET



LISA CAMPBELL



J.P. NELPFELD

GOOD SAMARITANS

The citizens of Charlotte

When a P.E.1. handkerchief dropped in a snatched bag of cash on a steady day, money began swirling through the air. Suddenly, it landed in, reaching under parked cars and chasing down fleeing folk. When it was all over, ten thieves had every one of the 10,000 dollars he started with.

Faron Hall

Seven years of living in a house along Winston's Road, Faron Hall's business in 1940s, when a manager left the house, Faron Hall, 40, described "divorcing" himself, jumped in and brought himself out. In 1940s, Hall played his game, then leaving a driving woman.

Civility Sullivanberger III

Henry has a wife, a son, and a son. He's a very, very good at his job. In 1940s, he played his game, then leaving a driving woman.

smooth landing on New York's frigid Hudson River. All 100 on board escaped alive. Last run off the rapidly sinking jet, after searching it twice. Sully

Leonardo DiCaprio, Kate Winslet and Susan Cameron

If the Titanic two women's rich before, the 1907 film took care of that. In May they gave some back, contributing \$100,000 to the nursing home fund of the ship's last survivor, William Dean, 70, died soon after, but that day his of financial concern.

J.P. Nelpfeld

The Concordia University student, a British man, claimed he would leave down his high school within the hour. Norfolk alerted police in Norfolk, England, who arrested the suspect at the school.

Lisa Campbell

The 1940s Ontario Superior Court judge knows that there are no

cent people in prison and that those who would face them are weakly underfunded. In 1940s, the Ministry of Justice. In January he gave \$1 million of his own money to the Association in Defense of the Wrongly Convicted. Cunningham's own got a tax break for his generosity.

David and Penny Chapman

After their ice cream plant in Middleboro, Mass., burned down, the Chapmans told their 350 workers they would rebuild in town. Selected staff would receive full pay for a year, hourly employ on for four months—and, if necessary, the Chapmans would "take care of them" beyond that. One worker told a reporter she didn't know exactly what that meant, but the Chapmans' word meant "we're going to be fine."

Lisa Campbell

The University of California at Berkeley police specialist knew there was something not right about the man in her office seeking

permission for a campus event. Rather than ignore the feeling, he set in motion the inquiry that saw Philip Garrido arrested and Joyce Chaplin, the woman he had kidnapped 18 years before, set free.

Jack Woodall

When the Bullington Insurance CEO sold half of his New Jersey firm, he pulled up a US\$500,000 bonus. Instead of keeping it, he gave each of his 454 employees US\$1,000. His only request? "I like when they spend more than their sales rather than pay bills."

Unknown home leader

Someone is determined to see women raised in higher education, and not just students. This year, an anonymous donor gave US\$100,000 to support 15 US post-secondary schools, with a portion earmarked for scholarships for women and minorities. The only link between the institutions? They all have female presidents. ■

—David Jackson

My name is Daniel Obrero.

I have a Bachelor's degree in Education, a Master's in Holistic Child Development, and a year to go on my Master's in Theology.

I have traveled to minister to men, women and children in Europe and Asia. I am the senior pastor of Sarraat Bible Baptist Church, a church in one of the poorest communities in the Philippines.

*It's the church I grew up in.
I am a Compassion sponsored child.*

Poverty needs an eternal solution. It's a problem that seems overwhelming—too big for anyone to really make a difference. But a difference is possible.

"I remember waiting for my father by the door to ask if he had caught some fish for dinner. There were days that we had nothing to eat at all," says Daniel, the youngest child in his family. Despite his father's efforts as a fisherman, the family never had a consistent income. Only his family's faith in Jesus Christ sustained them, believing that God would provide whatever they needed.



In 2002, Daniel started the Worker's Holistic Child Development Centre. Through the centre, he fed, clothed and taught the children, many of whom are teenagers today and continue to follow Daniel's example.

"[At first,] I questioned why he did not teach in a regular school to earn an income," Felicia, his 72-year-old mother, confesses. "My other children worried how their baby brother could support himself. But now I understand that, for Daniel, doing the Lord's work is more important than anything in the world."

In 2006, Daniel went to serve the people of Cambodia in an orphanage run by Solid Rock Baptist Church. "Cambodia is like the Philippines 10 years ago. Poverty there is so pronounced and they need the gospel terribly," he explains. "In the Topok-khiong village, the people thought 'Jesus' was a type of food." At the orphanage, he taught children the Bible, assisted in medical missions and feeding programs, tucked them into bed, and taught them English.

At nine-years-old, Daniel was registered at the San Lorenzo Student Centre, a Compassion project running in partnership with Sarat Bible Baptist Church. Soon after, he was sponsored by Edward & Mary Endicott, a couple from the United Kingdom. "[It is amazing] to think that these people, who are not my blood relatives, actually cared about me. Through their letters, I was convinced that I was loved," says Daniel.

In 1996, Daniel was asked to join Compassion's Leadership Development program, a program supporting extraordinarily gifted students as they gain a university education. A degree in Education was followed by an invitation to earn a master's degree in Holistic Child Development from the Baptist Theological Seminary in Penang, Malaysia.

With his impressive scholastic achievements, he would certainly have found great success as a teacher. Indeed, this was his family's expectation. But Daniel felt a different calling. Full-time ministry to children.



"...I remember how people cared for me when I was little. I want to care for the little ones in poverty as Compassion cared for me. I want to introduce them to Jesus."

"It was a multi-tasking ministry," he says. "A number of young people heard about my English language class and decided to attend. These youth would otherwise not come anywhere near the church. During the class, I purposefully taught them the words 'blood,' 'love,' and 'forgiveness,' so that, later, I could tell them about Jesus."

Daniel was prepared to spend the rest of his life caring for the Cambodian people, but in April, 2009, he received a phone call that completely changed his life. Sarat Bible Baptist Church's pastor had died, and its 150 members asked him to become their new senior pastor. He accepted the role in July, 2009.

Wiping tears from her eyes, Felicia says, "[Daniel] used to wait for me by the window and ask, 'Nanay, did you bring home food today? I'm very hungry.' I answered, 'Just sugar, son, it will do.' Now he has travelled to many countries, even to Europe—and [he] is my pastor. Who would have thought?"

As the pastor of his childhood church, Daniel is working to reopen the Worker's Holistic Child Development Centre, start new missions work, and expand his church's outreach to Nueva Ecija, a community located in the Ilocos Mountains. Every Sunday, the church runs their "Faith Feeding Program" to give the people a good meal. They've also distributed school supplies to the community's children, a pen and notebook for each one.

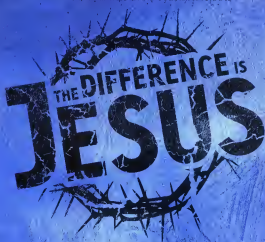
His reason for caring for the poor? It's simple. "I remember how people cared for me when I was little. [I have] a passion for ministry and a love for children... Jesus loves the little children. I want to care for the little ones in poverty as Compassion cared for me."

"I want to introduce them to Jesus" ✨

By Edwin Estioko, Compassion Philippines,
with Aaron Armstrong, Compassion Canada

Poverty has an Eternal Solution.

THE DIFFERENCE IN DANIEL'S LIFE IS MORE THAN
EDUCATION, HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS



EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

TheDifferenceisJesus.com



RELUCTANT STAR

Ask David Shultz, 40, he will try his best to convince you that everyone else deserves credit for that shiny piece of gold hanging on his uniform. The gold in question is a Star of Military Valour, a coveted decoration he received and so rare that no more than nine Canadian soldiers—Shultz included—have ever earned the right to wear it. One said to recognize “distinguished and valiant service in the presence of the enemy,” the Star is second only to the esteemed Victoria Cross, which hasn't been pinned on anyone since the Second World War. Translation: despite his humility, Warmer Officer Shultz is a hero, like here.

“It's an honor to wear it, but I wear it and accept it on behalf of my whole platoon,” says the 40-year-old father of two, who has spent more than half his life in army fatigues. “It was a team effort, and the credit goes to all the troops who were on the ground that day.”

That day—May 6, 2008—began like so many others. Stationed at a forward operating base west of Kandahar, Shultz was in command of a team of troops whose mission was to protect another group of soldiers who arrived from villages to village, meeting Afghan elders

and encouraging needs/water, schools, provision from the Taliban. Shultz's men, marching on foot through the volatile district of Paktika, were heading for their second strike of the morning when the ambush began.

“There was a lot of gunfire right

off the bat,” recalls Shultz, a member of Prince's Harbour's Canadian Light Infantry. “Because I knew my troops and they knew me, guys were already moving into positions where I knew I would need to put them.” He recalled the insurgent who fired the initial shot, but within minutes, Shultz and a handful of others were pinned behind a yellow wall, dodging heavy barrage of AK-47 fire and rocket-propelled grenades.

Eighthen months later, Shultz stands in a muddy lane, wearing a Star of Military Valour—because so many others “did the job.” The sergeant who fired back, despite being shot himself? The medic—Cpl. Michael Sturker—who didn't survive. The crew of the light armoured vehicle, which raced into the hornet's nest and left no man behind. Shultz is so determined to dole out his own

honors that he even goes so far as to praise the Edmonton staff at LASIK Eye Surgery. The company awarded his unrecognized nose-five of orange—during a “Support Our Troops” campaign before he deployed. “I really do want a lifeline,” he says. “There is no other way to describe it. I was able to see what I had to see, whereas before it was tough with corrective lenses that were muddy and cracked and sandy.”

Thankfully, what Shultz cries so hard not to say is contained, for all to see, in the official citation that accompanied his Star, which he received last month. “Recognition of the role, Warmer Officer Shultz played in these many fires to save lives, protect our soldiers and in saving the enemy,” it reads. “He repeatedly re-entered the danger zone to extract casualties and assist the patrol's fighting withdrawal. His leadership and courage inspired his soldiers and paved the way for our soldiers.”

When asked if he risked his own life to carry two of his comrades to safer ground, Shultz replies: “Something like that.”

He is a Canadian soldier, no doubt. Humble, loyal and, if at all possible, anonymous. This is a man who knows full well that thousands of others have served in Afghanistan since 2001, and that many of them—at least 27 in 2008—have come home in flag-draped caskets. “Every single day I'm here in Canada I'm grateful, because I know what the boys over there are doing,” he says. “We've got a fresh intake, a hot shower and good food. All of our problems are trivial compared to what they are handling.”

After two tours in Kandahar, Shultz is now assigned to the veterans' care cell at his regiment, where he works with wounded troops—and families of the fallen. “They are the unsung heroes of this mission,” he says. “Without their support and their love, it would be extremely difficult to carry on. The families—particularly mine—that's who I'd like to thank the most, for sticking with me through the good times and bad.” ■ —Michael Prosser



DAVID SHULTZ WITH MICHAEL STURKER

FIRST-LADY FASHION FACEOFF

By Patricia Tebbel

Laureen Harper (Canada)
"Reformed conservative" is the watchword for her very safe wardrobe

Michelle Obama (U.S.) She's toned, tall and totally fearless when it comes to colour

Miyuki Hayakawa (Japan)
Her "babe" in UFOs belies a sharp, unfussy fashion intelligence

Carla Bruni (France)
The former and former supermodel has Californian style hardwired in her DNA

Carla Bruni
Her Dior-bron wardrobe rivets big-scarf style mulling. And she knows the power of a couturier to lift a look

Michelle Obama
She captured the moment by wearing young designers who flatter her shape

Michelle Obama
Her love of bright and unusual shades veils away Carla's boring minimalist tones of gray, black and cream

WINNER

Queen Rania
Jordan's trendiest royal, Rania claims the current "Anna Winona" would approve: relaxed elegance while Michelle follows her own fashion muse, Vogue magazine be damned.

Somerset Spence
Her golden-bonding chic has a fresh style mojo Sarah Rayne strives for but never achieves

Queen Rania
Her majesty shows Swedens how a contrived belt's a dress for fashion punch

Queen Rania
Her way with modern draped fabrics and femme-power belts beats Somerset's dated rock 'n' roll chic

Sarah Brown (Britain)
Duel with a dash of bash: she gets points for bawling Cherie Blair's zany boho style

Somerset Spence (Spain)
It's a pity she shares the spotlight she's an effortlessly elegant exemplar in the land of Zara

Svetlana Medvedeva (Russia)
She takes Russian-train diamonds, furs and stilettos and tastefully tamps the bling down

Queen Rania (Jordan)
A pinched leather jacket and high-heeled footwear shout: "I'm young, hot and hip, and I'm a fashion empress too!"



TIGER WOODS (clockwise from left) in a new ad, Tina Turner and Louisa Ghar (right) and Amanda Leithart (left) in a new ad.

COMEBACKS

Tiger Woods

He took a 15-foot hole to hug the Arnold Palmer Invitational golf tournament in the spring, making it his fifth PGA victory. It had been nearly a year since the tiger, while he had enjoyed a big win, and Woods was ecstatic: "It's been a while, but God, it felt good." You can bet his competitors didn't share the feeling.

Tina Turner

Turner officially a Canadian company again. The coffee giant has moved its operations here to Oakville, Ont., from Delaware—where it had been registered since Wendy's began in 1984—after a 10-year legal battle. But the move isn't motivated by patriotism. Tina Turner is taking advantage of Canada's low corporate taxes. Canada love comes cheap.

Robert Fowler, Louisa Ghar and Amanda Leithart
After four months in St. Quid's

captivity, Canadian diplomat Robert Fowler and his wife Louisa Ghar were released. The pair had been working in Niger, where Fowler was a UN special envoy. The pandemic of Ebola virus helped negotiate their freedom, and some speculate a hefty ransom was paid. Another big guy out was declassified for Alberta journalist Amanda Leithart, who was held by Somali fighters for 15 months. She was freed in November. Her family raised money to support her education.

Whitney Houston

After battling drug addiction and getting a divorce, Whitney Houston has a new album called *Love My Way*. But all eyes have been on her: the American Music Award song gave Houston the international artist award in recognition of her global diva status. She also recently opened the new season of *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, where she belted out a moving rendition of Diane Warren's *I*

Didn't Know My Own Strength. Houston told Winfrey that she got back into singing because "I needed my joy back."

Kim Clajters

Belgian tennis player Kim Clajters came out of retirement to win the U.S. Open. She quit two years ago because of injuries, thought married and had a baby. But Clajters was invited to the tournament as a wildcard. She nabbed the \$840,000 prize, and became the first woman to take the championship in 29 years. "It's the greatest feeling in the world," she said, "a mother," Clajters told the crowd when her 18-month-old daughter ran onto the court for a post-match celebration. Clajters had planned to retire that day so they could be together. After all the excitement, mom must need a rest too.

Ford Taurus

Can a car make top-selling days when the 1990s and '90s really

mean? Ford's new CEO, Mark Fields, believes the new and improved Taurus will do just that. Among the perks the company owns are that it has more than 100 public parks, then a Lexus, a "Ford's Edge information system" that uses radar to detect nearby cars, and an "EcoBoost" engine that did more power without chewing through extra fuel. If only Ford could make good on a little more.

Fabergé

For the first time in 90 years, Fabergé—maker of those intricate Easter eggs for Russian royalty—has issued a collection of jewelry. It features a mixture of theme, there's a small one, a shell, a diamond and a water lily brooch. The 100-year-old company's pieces range in price from \$1,000 to \$10 million. They can only be purchased at Fabergé's CEO Mark Donahoe's store in St. Louis. "If you are thinking of spending \$1 million for a bracelet, why not have the designer come to you and show it to you on your yacht?"



LIGHT UP YOUR HOLIDAY SPIRIT

Weekend getaways from
\$99
per night

Stroll through our sparkling city during Scotland's Corridor of Lights when neighborhoods twinkle with the magic of the season. When it's time to warm up, head indoors to the bright lights of the theatre where you can watch bellydancers in The Nutcracker or sing along in The Sound of Music. It's time to refresh your holiday spirit with a Toronto Holiday Gateway starting at just \$99* a night. So call 1-877-848-3999 or visit www.SeelTorontoNow.com to explore and play today.

SeeTorontoNow.com



Toronto
Love Toronto & Make Memories

She's more famous than ever, thanks mostly to the Hollywood hit *Julie & Julia*. The film has catapulted Julia Child's 512-page tome, *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*, to the top of the best-seller lists. 48 years after it was first published, Her other culinary bible, *Julia's Kitchen Wisdom*, has been reprinted nine times and is the second bestselling cook book in the U.S. An autobiography called *My Life in France* has been reprinted nine times, which makes going for seconds seem natural.

Homes on Parliament Hill

The RCMP are once again allowed to ride horses in front of the Peace Tower on Parliament Hill. The day-clipping was banned in 2007 for fear manes would wind up hurt by suddenly speckled anemias. Before that, Mounties' home-back was an Ottawa highlight for 10 years. Now, one officer stays on the saddle while another walks alongside the horse. If only we could control question periods so easily.

LitFest Fair

Thrilling music festival LitFest Fair will be resurrected next season, a decade since the last all-female rock Canadian crossover Sarah McLachlan, who founded the concert in 1997, is behind its revival. No word yet which celebrity songwriters are on the bill, but this time there's a new angle: the "LitFest Live Talent Search," a find upcoming women's work-a-mere done.

The '90s

They were the best of times, and they were the worst of times. Here it was back the Winter Olympics in Canada, Petro-Canada's commemorative Olympic games, Michael Jackson's music, and a remake of *The '90s*. But many other remnants of that decade would be better forgotten: provincial elections, shoulder pads and shiny pants. Thankfully, sad wash has not made a resurgence. **B**

—Cathy Galt

THEY'RE BACK...

The problem may be that the Afghan Taliban were never really defeated. They just picked up and moved. Ahmad Rashid, arguably the world's foremost authority on the Taliban, describes the conduct of Taliban fighters from Afghanistan to Pakistan in the fall of 2001. "They arrived in droves, by bus, train, and tractor, on camels and horses, and on foot," he writes in *Descent Into Chaos*. "For many, there was no escape but a return home—back to the refugee camps in Pakistan, where they had been brought up [during the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan] and where their families still lived."

Rashid had officials with Pakistan's largest spy agency, the Directorate for Inter-Services Intelligence, stand with western officials at the border crossing and watch the fighters. They'd returned the Taliban for years. "For Pakistan they still represent the future of Afghanistan and had to be hidden away until their time came."

The United States didn't know Pakistan about the returning fighters—despite requests to do so by the new Afghan president, Hamid Karzai, and his then Afghan minister, Abdullah Abdullah. Karzai was Abdullahi's Washington in January 2002 to ask the Americans to get Pakistan to stop allowing the Taliban to regroup. He was rebuffed. The U.S. was interested in the al-Qaeda terrorists who brought down the twin towers, not the Taliban who shattered them. As Abdullah put it: "The CIA wanted Aids, not Afghan."

And so the Taliban returned, killed their wounds, raised funds, drew recruits, and plotted a comeback. They began moving troops into Afghanistan late 2003, and launched a guerrilla campaign just as America was focusing all its military and intelligence resources on Iraq. The invasion of Iraq was a "disaster" for Afghan



Ironically, Rashid said in an interview with *McClatchy's* it sucked up money and personnel that might have gone toward rebuilding Afghanistan. NATO stepped in to provide security, but was far too few troops. The Taliban led on the resulting instability and war support from Afghan who concluded the forces serves in their own, or simply wasn't serious. By the spring of 2006, when Canadian troops deployed to Kandahar, a full-scale emergency was raging.

Center intelligence on war or lost in the hearts and minds of the local population. And the international forces in Afghanistan were losing hearts and minds because of interference on an atomic, which resulted in the cultural damage of dead civilians, because they backed Karzai, whose government is increasingly seen as corrupt, because they couldn't provide jobs, and because they couldn't provide security. The Taliban's comeback gathered strength.

"It's not because the public was anxious to have the Taliban return," says Mahmud Wabshan, a scholar in the Middle East Institute. "It's a direct function of the failure of the Kabul government and the international forces to protect the local population."

NATO's International Security Assistance Force is now led by U.S. Gen. Stanley McChrystal, who has released international efforts on protecting civilians, rather than killing insurgents. He's also asked U.S. President Barack Obama to deploy another 40,000 American troops to the country.

It's the right answer, says Wabshan, but it may be too late. "If that had all been done earlier, I don't think there's any question we would be looking at a very different situation."

Can things be turned around? "With difficulty," he says. "No body's very optimistic. We're dug ourselves out a hole."

—Michael Press

A smooth way to face Monday mornings

Put your best face forward without pulling, tugging or irritating your skin – and start the new week with irresistibly smooth skin.

Monday morning – it's something we all have to look after an action-packed weekend. For two full days, you ditched your suit, your laptop and your usual shaving routine. But now the games have ended: the concert is a wrap, the party's over – and like the rest of the guys, all you've got left of the weekend is a grizzly face staring back at you in the mirror. So how can you get back your clean-shaven look and reduce the risk of irritating your skin in the process?

"One of the best parts about the weekend?"
Not having to shave! But that leaves difficult stubble to contend with on Monday. For that, you need a shaver designed to challenge and defeat Monday morning stubble.*

— Marc St.

So what's the trouble with so-called stubble? Your current electric shaver may not be able to deal with it. Tugging at the long hairs and massing the short ones. And all that hair pulling, tugging and discomfort can leave you with irritated skin – just adding to your Monday morning misery. Tough blades make for tough shaving. With the right shaver, you can forget about the special challenges your weekend stubble presents and start the week confidently with a clean, smooth shave.

So how do you go from scruffy to smooth without sacrificing comfort?

The smooth solution

- To keep your skin smooth and help reduce irritation, look for a shaver with multiple cutting elements designed to remove long hairs as easily as the short ones.



3-stage Cutting System

- For a clean and comfortable shave in hard to reach areas like the neck, try a shaver with independently flexing elements that can easily adapt to your face and capture hairs growing in different directions.



Triple Action Flex-Point System

- Keep your shave clean, fresh and free of a clogging system like Braun's Clean & Refresh* you'll feel like you're using a new shaver every day. It automatically cleans lubricates, dries and charges the shaver at the touch of one button.



Clean & Refresh* System

The NEW Braun® Series 3 shavers take care of long and short beards with precision, style and comfort. Get Monday mornings off to a smooth start!

Find out how the NEW Braun® Series 3 can make your Monday mornings better at braun.com

BRAUN



ROMAN POLANSKI

AT LAST...

David Drobinsky and Myron Gottlieb

The founders of *Livest* were removed offstage at Ontario Superior Court. The conviction came 11 years after *Livest* collapsed and the partners were accused of cooking the books. Their seven-year August brought an end to a saga that seemed as long as *Livest's* August, though less boring.

Roman Polanski

More than 10 years after he fled the U.S. to escape sentencing for sexual abuse of a 13-year-old girl, Polanski was arrested in Zurich. Many of the director's industry friends signed a petition protesting the arrest, saying if Polanski is extradited and sentenced, it will "take away his freedom." Well, yeah, that's the idea.

Pete Seeger

When the singer-songwriter (Turn, Burn, Burn) performed at a San Diego school in 2006, the school board had successfully to cancel the concert after he wouldn't sign a non-Communist loyalty oath. This year, the board asked a letter of apology to Seeger for past Red-baiting. He replied that the controversy helped his career. Even left-wing talk-show host Oprah publicly.

Oprah Winfrey

America's sympathizer as she announced she's leaving her long-disputed daytime show at the end of next year's season, her 25th. The billion-dollar TV star is abandoning her millions of loyal followers to the hands of work of cable news. She hopes to take them to her own network, where they can watch Oprah approved shows around the clock.

Section 32

The so-called hate speech section of the Canadian Human Rights Act allows governments to regulate racists of "hate or contempt." After many challenges, a tribunal ruled it violates

constitutional rights. The ruling doesn't actually overturn the law, but it's the thought that counts.

'Charlie's Fearful'

For 17 years, the straggly vol-au-vent has sold to who's who in the families of British aristocrats. This year is included out of wedlock children for the first time ever. Editor William Barrack ordered the change to reflect the reality that "many people, even from titled families, do not marry." This may be the biggest blow to the success of aristocratic marriage since Charles and Diana broke up.

Kelly Marie Ellard

Part of a group that rounded up Vancouver teen Kevin York in 1997, Ellard has been keeping lawyers busy since her 2006 conviction was overturned. (It was full of holes by a criminal and an other conviction.) This year, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that her last conviction would stand, with no more do-overs.

Philadelphia, Miss.

The controversially named town, best known as the site of the murder of three civil rights workers in 1964, elected as San Antonio American mayor day after James Young deflected the white incursions by 48 votes. As with Obama's election, that presumably proves that racism no longer exists.

Apple Inc.

The U.S.'s biggest music retailer (thanks to iTunes) sold next to nothing "digital locks" that prevented them from being copied. When Apple devices in January Apple announced it would remove the locks.

This may be bad news for music producers, since it will encourage piracy. But it's good news for that petriest PC from those commercials, who can finally get some to sense of the Mac's sales. **M**

—Jennifer Wrenman

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Cool and crisp, the SAPHIRE Collins is a compelling cocktail for any season. Made with real lemon juice and BOMBAY SAPHIRE® Gin, consider it the perfect companion.



REDISCOVER A CLASSIC COCKTAIL

1½ oz. BOMBAY SAPHIRE® Gin
¼ oz. fresh lemon juice
¼ oz. simple syrup*
3 oz. club soda

Pour first three ingredients into a Collins glass with ice and stir well. Add more ice and top with club soda. Garnish with a lemon wedge.

*To make your own simple syrup, dissolve one cup sugar into one cup hot water.

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IT'S A WRAP

Gifts we'd give to some of the most memorable personalities of the year
by Rachel Mendicino and Tim Menheffer



SARAH PALIN

The Porcine Kinderbop girl? To keep her pseudonym entertained during those long winter days staring at Russia, a GPS Snow Rider II 230 portable unit won't—because you know she needs one. And a Kindle e-reader. She can use it to keep up with all the books written on and by her while she goes north on tour.

JOHN BAIRO

A cat named Magic. News of his pet Thatcher's recent exit to feline heaven has the PMO calling the British government to see what cat happened to Mangelor. Also this Escapade jacket from Zagari—to bring back memories of his days as a newsreader. It's made from 100 per cent recycled polyester yarns (it's plastic bottles) and includes solar panels on the sleeves to power up cellphones.



STEPHEN HARPER

The Mr. P.T. Plus. To keep in shape on the road, a copy of the Reader's Week Book to inspire for his next biceps performance, and a new Bosch pneumatic strip sander. Smaller and more powerful than any other and won't give it back good for those home hand-crafted photo ops.



TAYLOR SWIFT

A copy of Anthony Weiner's *Shrinkage: The Fabulist Singer Sings* (and *Sings*) for advice on how to never, ever again from the West. She'll be ready for you new Kongs.

OP: BETTY STOCK PHOTO

MACLEAN'S DEC. 14, 2009

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[F] BMW GOLF BAG

Thoroughly functional, sports cart bag in a variety of new ways from the course. BMW Golf Sport design in cooperation with GOLF. **\$285.90**



BMW MAKES IT SPECIAL

[E] MEN'S M JACKET

This wind and waterproof garment is made from breathable Soft Shell fabric and features dynamic roll piping and roll lining (breakdown) with BMW M logo. **\$216.90**



[G] BMW M CUFF LINKS

High quality metal cufflinks with an embossed BMW M logo on the face. **\$36.90**



[H] CLASSIC BMW WATCH

Classic BMW men's watch with stainless steel case and Porsche design. Black leather strap. BMW logo engraved on the back. Also available in a ladies' version. **\$229.90**

BY GETTY IMAGES



DAVID MILLER

A whole new set of e-ty vehicles from Lego. You know him: he's the boss of his old ones.

CAMELLA, DUCHESS OF CORNWALL

They didn't want any official gifts from their Canadian hosts. But not to fret, highness. Here's a little something to remember us by. These Olympic mittens from the Bay watch Prince Charles (and are perfect for skiing). And the CO logo cheer from Sweden. Design will show off beautifully all those royal cubs right we've given the price on his previous visits.



KRISTEN STEWART

The rising star of the supernatural version of the Twilight saga. Not only is a member of the Twilight, but she's also a fan of the series. So, here's the private life she's so open to (and openly) enjoys.



MICHAEL PHNELPS

Swimmer. Strong. Not a fish. To boost his performance after his year finish of the Anna World Cup in November. The rigging has a revolutionary design that involves a dialysis dial in order to increase a swimmer's speed and power.



GUY LABRIENTE

The Cirque du Soleil founder and space tourist gets a pair of G-Defy Bellac: gravity-defying footwear—they have a spring in their heel that supposedly makes it look as if you're walking on air. A thing that can remind him of his celestial adventures.



Check out the complete selection of exclusive apparel and accessories at BMWshop.ca and MINIshop.ca today.



JENNIFER LOPEZ

She's immortalized them in song, but there's life beyond those Christian Louboutin 12-in.-like five pairs of Gucci loafers, high-heeled boots, those Versace pumps from Hula Hula, or, for that matter, those Aldo shoes that are a bargain at \$34.95—and you won't find them.



VLADIMIR PUTIN

The smiling Soviet Aquadrop—his water sport he has it in and Bushnell's compass (X 10) a 36 waterproof binoculars (all the better to see Ukraine and Georgia with), and the 130 sport button-down from Harry Rosen, a shirt he wouldn't want to take off in public.



STEPHANE DION

A Snuggly. Ditch it the day he's "The Weirdest" guy.



NICOLAS CAGE

The Northern Industrial Tools Power Log Holes, a device that turns old newspapers into fuel for fireplace. Cage can take it to his museum—and present a rooming personal bankruptcy by selling back an energy cuts.



ANGELINA JOLIE

This chair by designer Iva Ragni, Sacco and UNICEF— together it looks inspired by the full book, *Seawater in Africa*. Is it a style and do anything all in one go.



Jabra
DISCOVER EXTENSIO

Are you using a Jabra Hands-free device yet?



BT950 - Mono

MSRP - \$149

- Bluetooth Stereo Headset
- Hands-free device with 3.5mm audio cable
- 2.5mm audio cable with 3.5mm audio cable
- Hands-free device with 3.5mm audio cable

SP710 - Stereo

MSRP - \$129

- Hands-free device with 3.5mm audio cable
- 2.5mm audio cable with 3.5mm audio cable
- Hands-free device with 3.5mm audio cable
- Hands-free device with 3.5mm audio cable

SP200

MSRP - \$89

- Hands-free device with 3.5mm audio cable
- 2.5mm audio cable with 3.5mm audio cable
- Hands-free device with 3.5mm audio cable
- Hands-free device with 3.5mm audio cable

BT330

MSRP - \$119

- Hands-free device with 3.5mm audio cable
- 2.5mm audio cable with 3.5mm audio cable
- Hands-free device with 3.5mm audio cable
- Hands-free device with 3.5mm audio cable

BT2000

MSRP - \$49

- Hands-free device with 3.5mm audio cable
- 2.5mm audio cable with 3.5mm audio cable
- Hands-free device with 3.5mm audio cable
- Hands-free device with 3.5mm audio cable

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A couple of long \$45 drivers are the perfect gift for the hard coach and general manager of the Toronto Maple Leafs. Use it to get geared up for the playoffs, ladies which you're about spend on the ice. We thought you might like this sweatshirt from CofeHeadz.



MEGAN FOX

The Ray & Ruff, a mobile website that moves on predetermined patrols to help prevent future burglaries at her L.A. home. And a victory key chain to remind her of another excellent security measure: actually locking the door.



GISELE BÜNDCHEN

The Burnside Jetts Printing System is perfect for Bündchen who is pregnant and also taking helicopter lessons. The System is essentially a speck and ink, adorned with a light up runway. She and Tom Brady might also like the Rapid Dry Power Print System, a powered print roller for fast drying ink on the bedrock of their forthcoming child.



TAYLOR LAUTNER

A wardrobe of Hudson North placed shirts from the Bay since he's always wearing his every time he turns into a werewolf in the Twilight saga's New Moon.



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CORRADO AQUINO, 76, President of the Philippines, 1986-92



ROBERT BLACK, 89, Grammy-nominated producer



NORMAN BORLAUG, 91, Nobel Peace Prize-winning agricultural scientist



J. B. S. HALDANE, 90, Canadian biologist



JIM HARBAUGH, 74, San Francisco 49ers coach



WALTER CRONKITE, 90, news anchor



ARTHUR C. CLARKE, 91, science fiction writer



NADINE GORDIMER, 81, Nobel Prize-winning author



SAM ETO'OH, 36, Nigerian footballer



FERRAN ADRIÀ, 42, chef



ANGELA DAVIS, 62, activist



DON EDWARDS, 71, politician



SAM DONALDSON, 71, journalist



JOHN DEERE, 71, farmer



MAURICE DRUART, 81, politician



EDWARD KENNEDY, 77, politician



JAMES EARL RAY, 71, assassin



ED BRADLEY, 51, actor



ROBERT MCNAMARA, 81, politician



LES PAUL, 81, musician



YUSEF KARAM, 81, politician



BRUCE LAMARR, 81, actor



MARY MCCORMACK, 41, actress



JOHN O'CONNELL, 71, actor



ANDREW SACHS, 81, actor

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*BMW Group named most sustainable automobile company worldwide for five consecutive years according to the S&P Global's analysis of the Dow Jones Sustainability Index. Compared to the BMW X6 sDrive50i.
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